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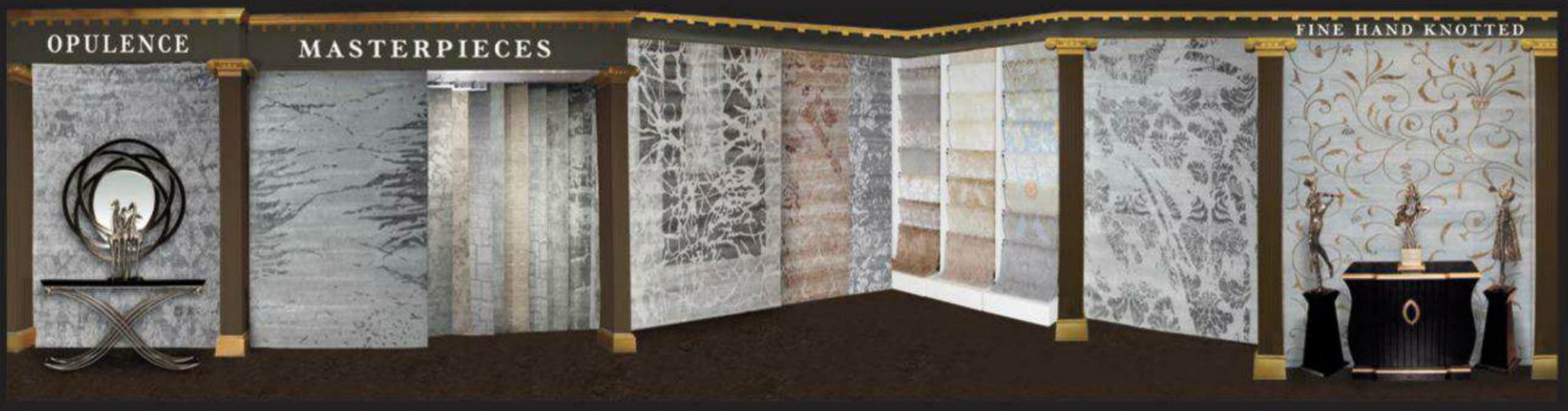

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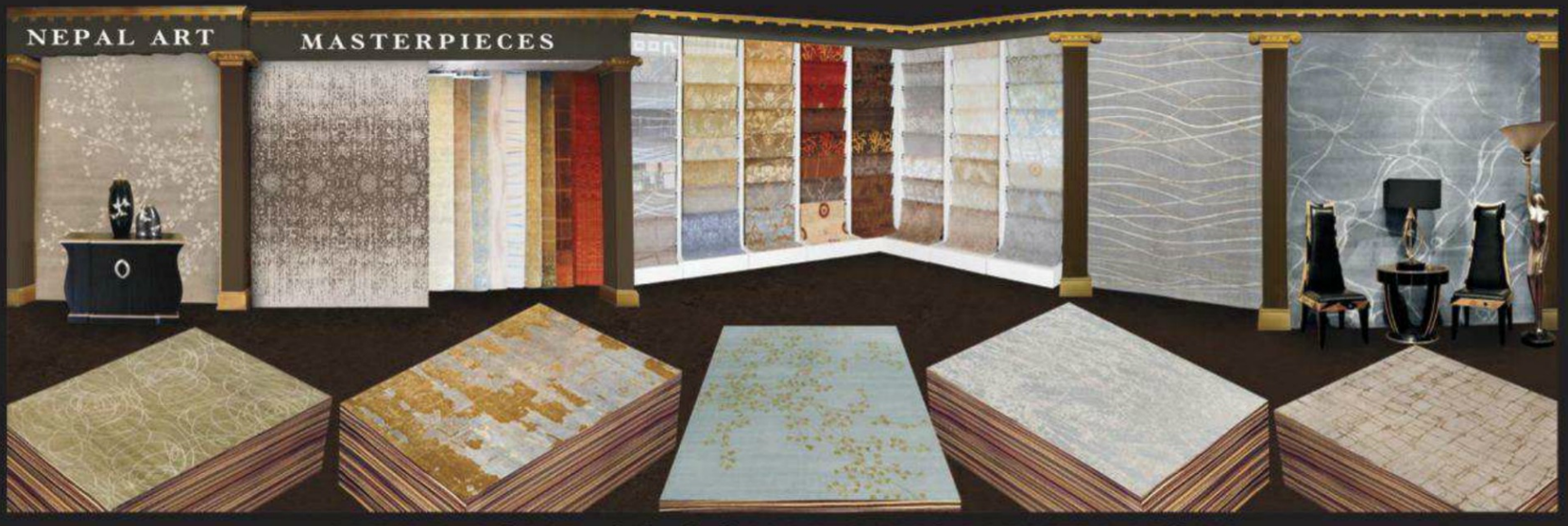

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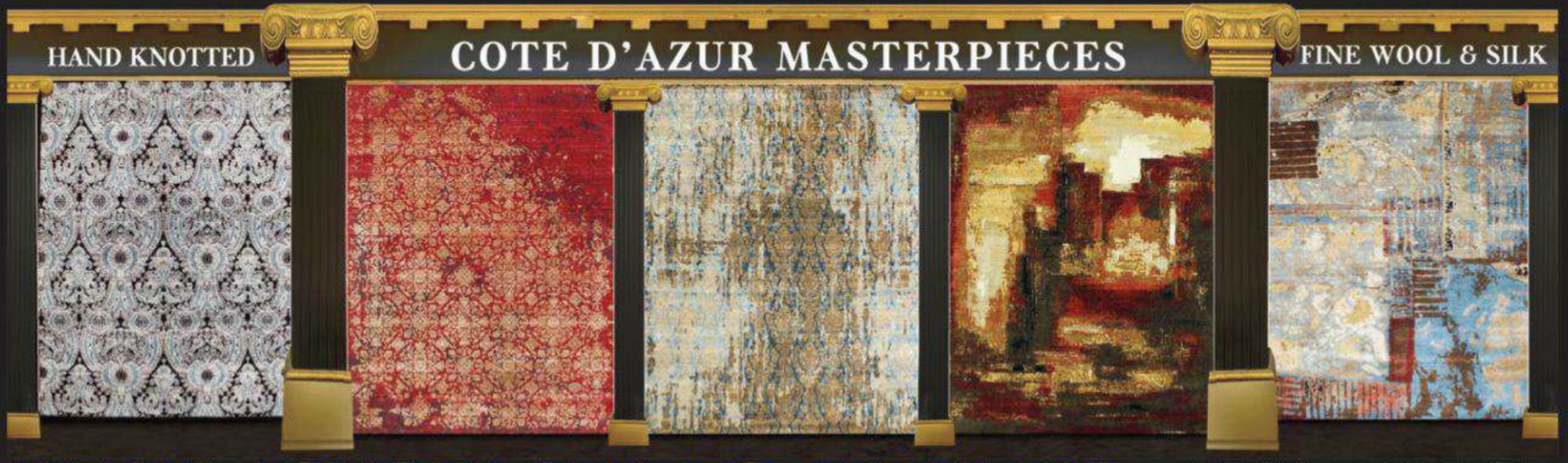

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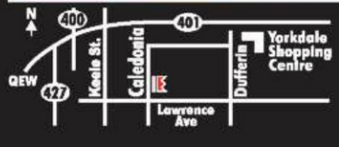

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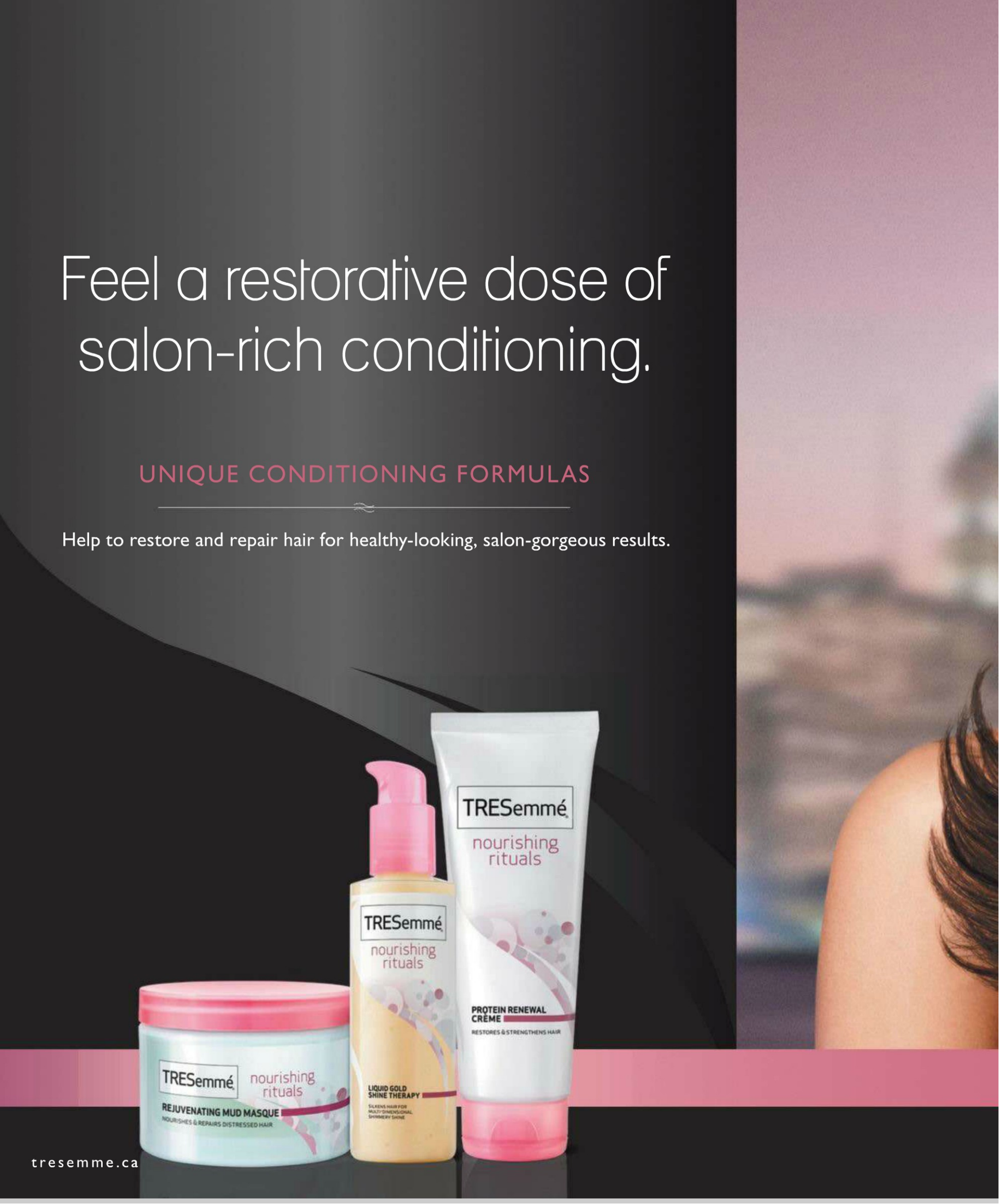

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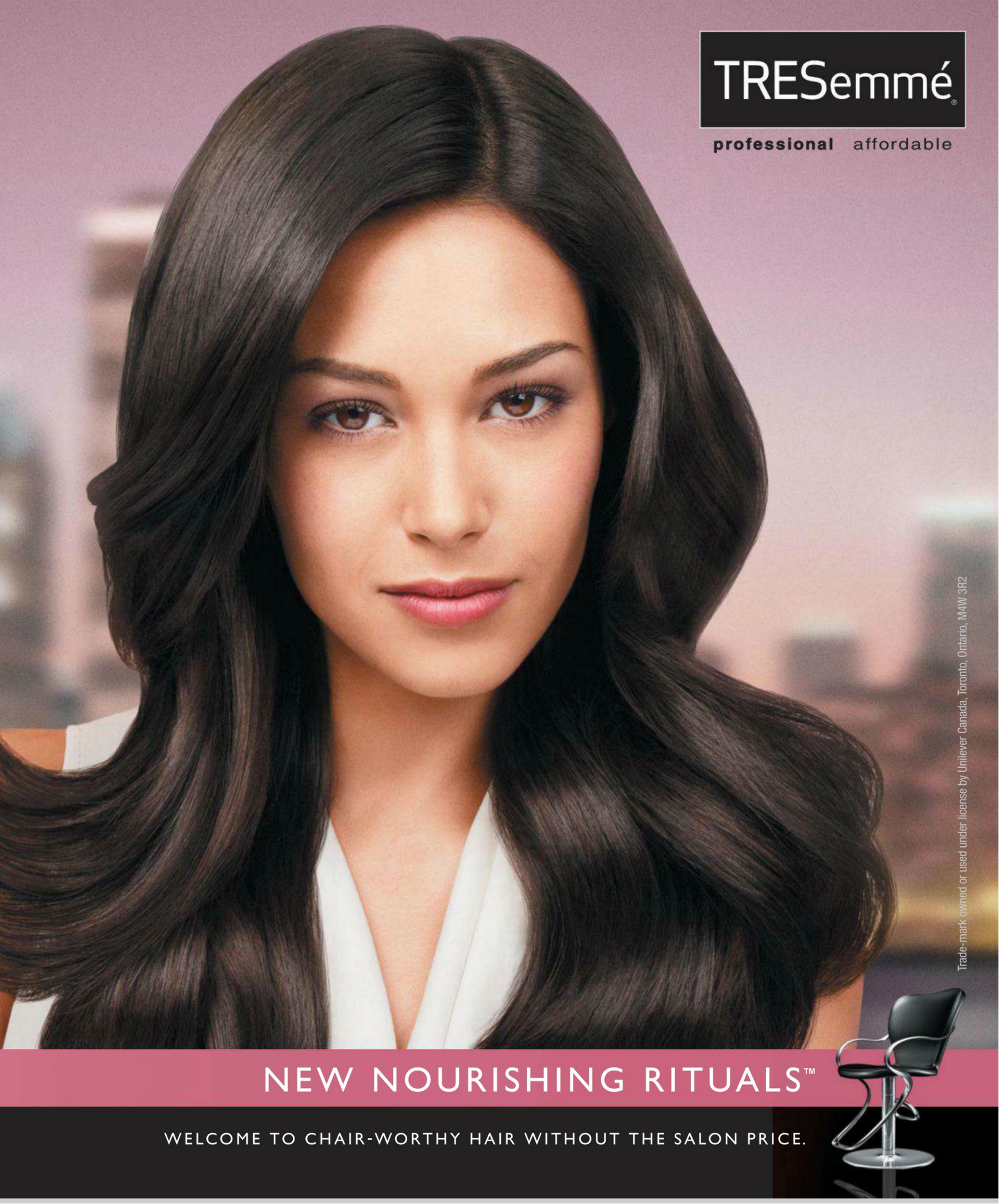
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AUGUST 2012

HOMES

76 DOWN THE RIGHT PATH
Designer Ingrid Oomen transforms a dark and dated cottage into an open and airy country charmer in majestic Muskoka

82 CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'
Not many see Lake Erie and think Southern California. Luckily, Toronto shop owner Teresa Wiwchar is as one of a kind as her sense of style

90 WILD IN STONEY LAKE
After spending youthful summers at her family's cottage, an architect builds her own country retreat across the lake

DECORATING

40 STEVEN & CHRIS
TV hosts Steven and Chris answer their most-asked design dilemmas

42 DOLLARS & SENSE
Handyman and TV star Scott McGillivray tells you where to save and where to spend

44 INSIDE DESIGN
We talk comfort and style with furniture designers Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams

48 HIGH OR LOW
A striking kitchen display that keeps everything within easy reach for any event, be it Jamie Oliver casual or Julia Child formal

56 CHRISTINE'S NOTEBOOK
A buying guide to the classic slipcover

58 SHINING EXAMPLES
We fashion six simple ways to cast a summer evening spell and make your entertaining glow

60 DESIGNING WOMEN
When it comes to decorating on a dime, the owners of Charlottetown's Turquoise Shed Designs know how to bring a sea of ideas home

68 MIAMI MEETS MUSKOKA
Designer Jennifer Ferreira transforms a Canadian boathouse into a tropics-inspired guest house

ON THE COVER
A rustic and relaxing nook that takes in the view **76**

PHOTOGRAPHY
Michael Graydon

STYLE NEWS

DECOR
Colourful outdoor fabrics, vibrant hand-woven baskets, charming cottage-style paint palettes and more **27**

TRENDSPOTTING
Vintage jadeite is reimagined as a modern mint hue with just a wink of nostalgia **34**

FOOD & DRINKS

DESSERT OF THE MONTH
A soft and sweet, drip-down-your-chin treat that will have you savouring every last bite **36**

DINNER UNDER THE STARS
Whether you're in the city or at the lake, savour the freshest fare alfresco, cottage style **98**

TASTINGS
Wine aficionado Angela Aiello celebrates the season with Canadian-made wine that's sure to delight **106**

REGULARS

From our Editor **14**
Letters from Home **20**
Date with Style **22**
Styleathome.com **24**
Workbook **110**
Style Destination **120**
Style Statement **122**

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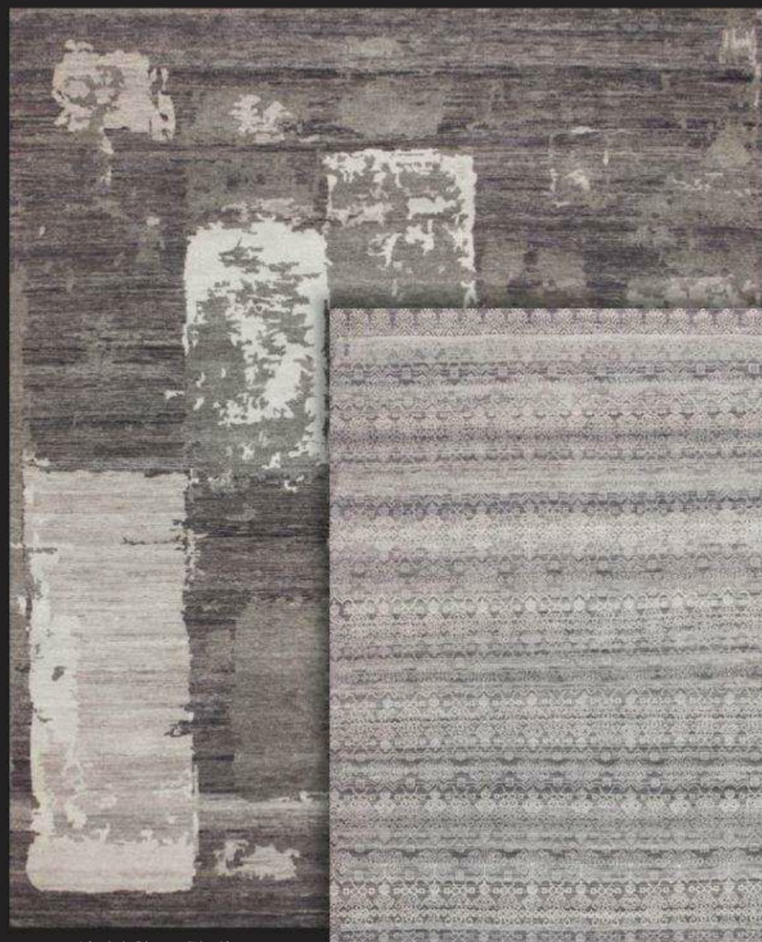

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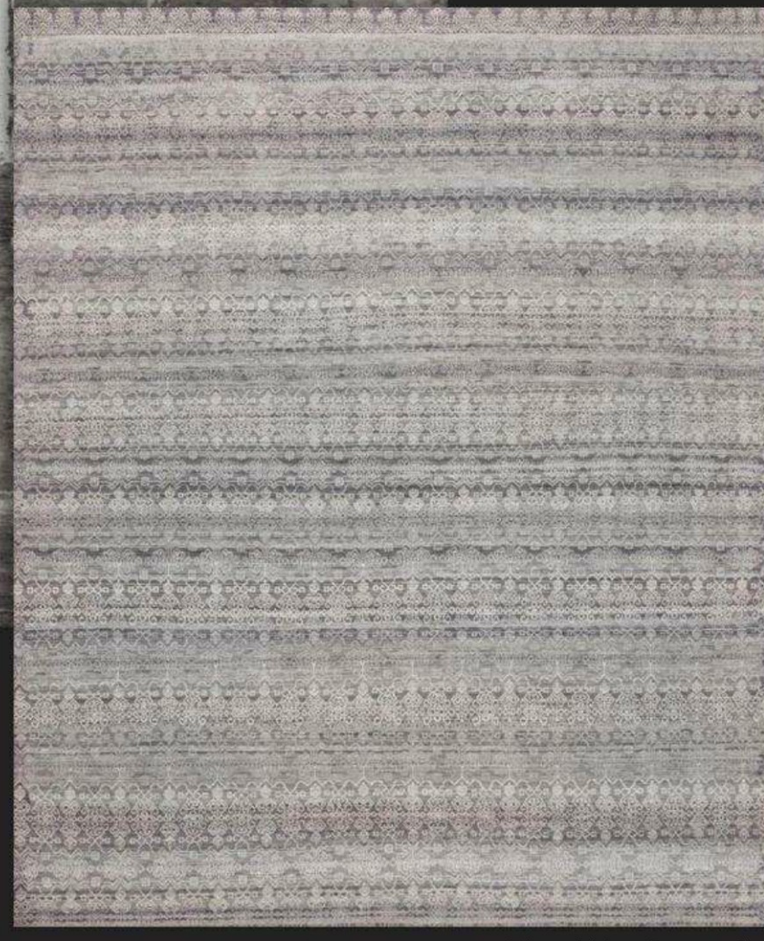

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Many years ago, British expat designer Rachel Ashwell coined the term "shabby chic." A former wardrobe and prop stylist, Rachel was intrigued by the beauty and patina of vintage finds, and developed a whole look – and a business – that centred around a fresh colour scheme of white, white and more white. By layering different textures, mixing modern with vintage finds and bringing the occasional faded floral or stripe into the mix, Rachel created an aesthetic that, with its relaxed elegance and comfortable appeal, evokes the essence of Cottage Style. It's a timeless look that never seems past its prime. And as her product line extended to bedding, furniture, books, lighting and more, Rachel has never strayed from that winning decorating formula. It should come as no surprise, then, that we can create an entire issue around the easy cottage-style look.

Like Rachel, the designers and homeowners featured in this issue have developed their own cottage-style looks that will stand the test of time. From architect Dee Dee Taylor Eustace's island property decorated in classic navy and white to designer Jennifer Ferreira's take on Miami Beach style for a lakeside boathouse to designer Ingrid Oomen's airy reno for a family getaway and shop owner Teresa Wiwchar's retro-inspired cottage bursting with vintage fabrics and bold colours, their styles are accessible, comfortable and built to last.

Taking favourite aspects of that laid-back cottage vernacular to make each space unique is the key, and it's true whether your haven is on a lake or in the city. It's the perfect recipe for summer success.

Erin

Erin McLaughlin erin@styleathome.com

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FAMILY VALUES

I sat down to chat with designer Ingrid Oomen of Qummunicate about her version of cottage-style chic. Read all about it starting on page 76.

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INSPIRATION **STATION**

I'm not usually a gusher, but I want to tell you how much I'm enjoying the June issue of *Style at Home*. I'm not even finished with it yet because I've found so much inspiring material. I'm mesmerized by all of the beautiful colours – they've got me thinking about a new bedroom palette. Thanks for the inspiration!

STEPH ARGENT, SURREY, BC

TRUE **TO YOU**

I just spent a lazy Sunday morning engaged with your June issue and I had to write and say thank you! Even though the theme was Design for Every Budget, it could have been Designing to Reflect Your Personality. It was pleasantly free of the contrived. How refreshing! After all, if we can't be ourselves at home, where can we be? I'm so inspired!

CHARITY GALASSO, VIA EMAIL

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100+ BEST DESIGNER secrets
50 design solutions FROM THE pros
93 best PAINT COLOURS for EVERY ROOM
22 NO-FAIL DESIGNER PAINT PALETTES

SIMPLY **THE BEST**

I've had a subscription to *Style at Home* for years, and the 100+ Best Designer Secrets special issue is one of the best ever! I'm an interior decorator and an accredited member of CDECA, and I found this issue to be chock full of practical tips and ideas. Well done!

LISA KASDORF, VIA EMAIL

S@H READERS TWEET

On the dock sipping a hot coffee and reading my *Style at Home*. Time for a little #DIY inspiration.
@BunsUpBaby

Thoroughly enjoying the *Style at Home* June issue. Love the home by @kellydeckdesign, stunning!
@luluanddrew

I should probably eat some dinner but my *Style at Home* arrived and I'm enjoying it with a glass of wine.
@coffeewithjulie

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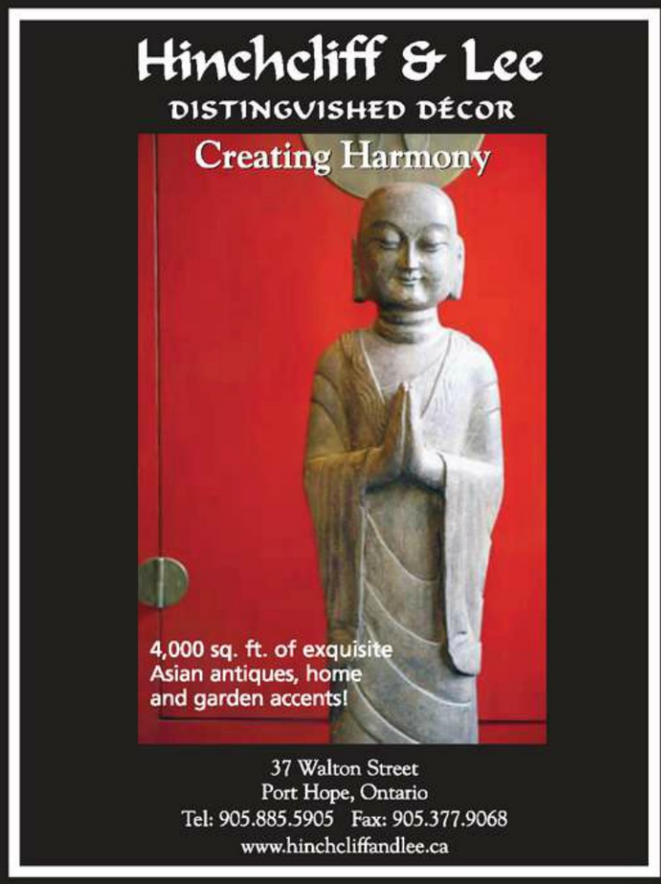

DATE WITH *style*

Don't miss *Style at Home* editors and designers on television and at these events.

Watch editor-in-chief **Erin McLaughlin** on CBC's *Steven and Chris*. For air dates and times, check your local listings or go to cbc.ca/stevenandchris.

Editor-in-chief **Erin McLaughlin** on set with Steven Sabados and Chris Hyndman.

WE'RE ON TV!

Catch style and food editor **Tara Ballantyne** and design editor **Jessica Waks** on Citytv's *CityLine* on July 31. Check your local listings for showtimes or go to citytv.com/cityline.

WISH YOU **WERE HERE!**

Associate editor **Sara Cation** with renowned furniture designers Mitchell Gold (left) and Bob Williams during a meet-and-greet at Elte in Toronto. Read about how the pair met and started their successful business on page 44.

Comfortable and stylish pieces from the dynamic design duo.

PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA (JESSICA & TARA); COURTESY OF MITCHELL GOLD + BOB WILLIAMS (LIVING ROOM)

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WIN THIS!

This month, you could win an **Edifier Luna5 Encore.** This sleek, modern five-driver speaker system is designed for function and style and features an iPhone and iPod dock, auxiliary input and FM tuner. The functionality of the system results in its award-winning sound quality. Available in white and black, the speakers include a 5.5" woofer, 2.5" mid-range drivers and 1" silk tweeters.

To enter, visit styleathome.com/newsletter.

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10 cottage *must-haves*

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PHOTOGRAPHY, ANGUS FERGUSSON, STACEY VAN BERKEL

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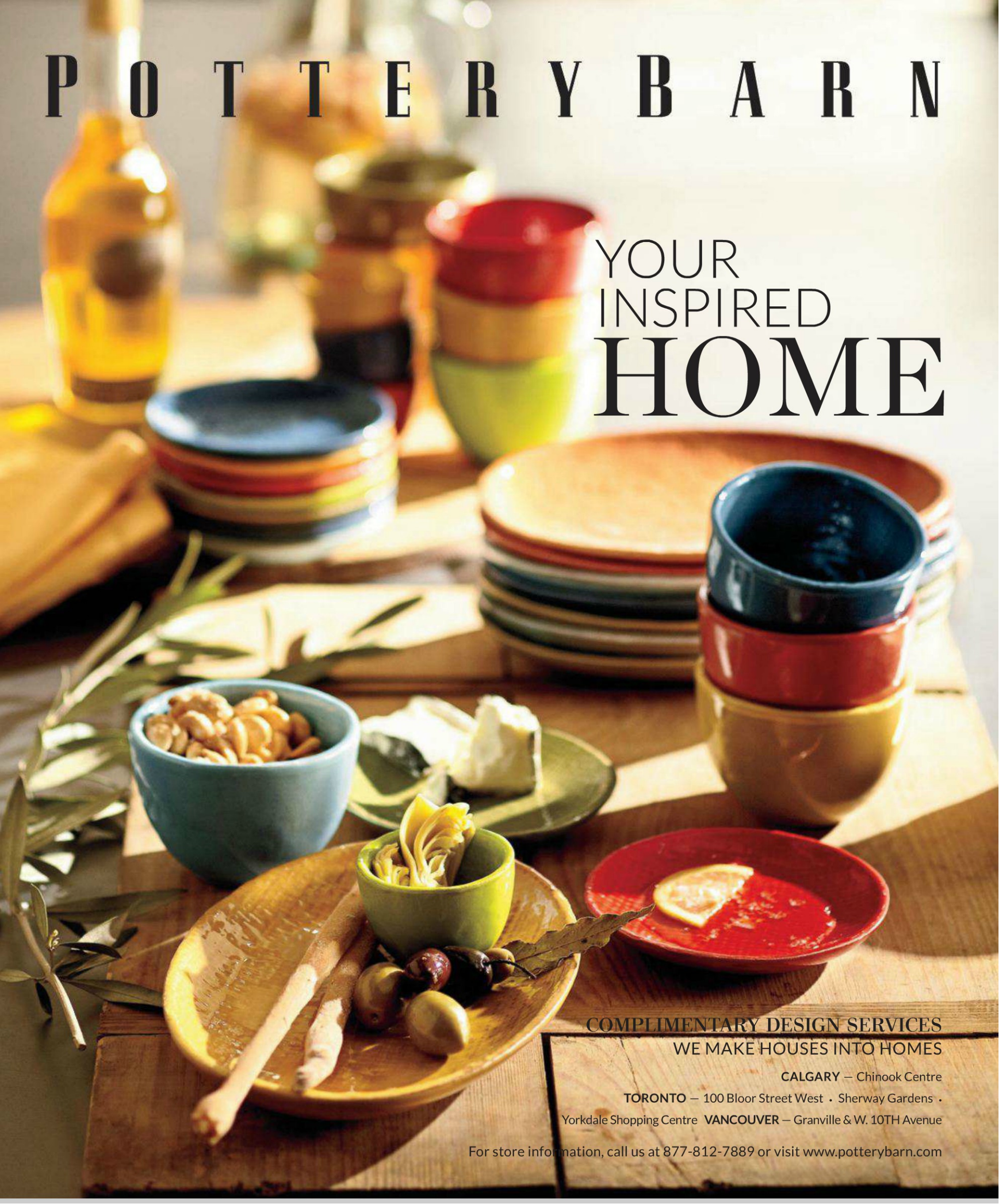
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stylenews

PRODUCER JESSICA WAKS

Decor, trends, style ideas and more – we bring you the latest and greatest inspirations.

To achieve precise, even lines, use a paint marker – they come in a variety of colours and point sizes.

Sharpie Oil-based Opaque **PAINT MARKER,** Michaels Stores, michaels.com.

ALONG THESE LINES

For this issue's project of the month, managing editor and resident crafter Catherine Therrien turns up the charm on this vintage basket by hand-painting lines on the edges of its wooden strips to resemble grosgrain ribbon. It takes a little patience, but it's nothing you can't do on a lounger while soaking in the sun.

For more of Catherine's fun and easy projects, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/CRAFTS.**

PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA; STYLING, CATHERINE THERRIEN

IN THE CAN big box paint news

1 **LOOK FOR LESS** Origins by Benjamin Moore is a new line exclusively available at Canadian Tire that offers 494 curated colours with a built-in primer, starting at only $40. canadiantire.ca.

2 **NATURAL BEAUTY** Drawing from the hues of the Canadian landscape, Rona has launched colour palettes, named Rona's Group of 7, in celebration of the new Rona Collection Paint-and-Primer-in-One. rona.ca.

3 **COMMITMENT-PHOBES** At Lowe's, Valspar's Love Your Colour Guarantee makes picking the perfect paint colour less intimidating by offering a complimentary two-gallon paint replacement if your first choice doesn't work out. loveyourcolour.ca.

ALFRESCO BRIGHTS

Outdoor fabrics are being revitalized in a new range of inspiring colours and patterns that stand up to summer's wear and tear. We love the global vibe of Beacon Hill's Outdoor Ikats collection, which is a modern take on traditional Uzbekistan silks, while the summery solids and stripes of Robert Allen Contract's Sunbrella collection are sure to freshen up any patio.

HIGH

from $205 per yard

Beacon Hill Outdoor Ikats **FABRIC,** through designers, Robert Allen, robertallen-design.com.

LOW

from $65 per yard

Robert Allen Contract Sunbrella **FABRIC,** through designers, Robert Allen, robertallen-design.com.

Annie **OTTOMANS** with Ribbon fabric in Cornflower Blue and legs in Antique Ivory finish, $1,025 each, Elte, elte.com.

PATTERN PARTNERSHIP

Hickory Chair Furniture and Hable Construction team up for an exciting new textile collection.

North Carolina's Hickory Chair Furniture has long been celebrated for its highly customizable designer furniture collections by talents like Thomas O'Brien and Suzanne Kasler. Now, the company has added some design star power to its textile library with fresh yet elegant fabrics by Hable Construction.

Brooklyn-based sisters Susan and Katharine Hable designed two whimsical woven fabrics to inject a youthful energy into the more-traditional furniture silhouettes, while complementing Hickory Chair's existing palettes of blues, browns and warm neutrals.

"The pattern shown on the triangle-shaped ottomans is called Ribbon," says Susan. "It's a small-scale circular motif reminiscent of lace, but we kept it simple so the pattern would feel playful. It gives a shot in the arm to the current printed offerings."

TWICE AS NICE.

Canada's largest Lighting showroom now provides a beautiful selection of designer furnishings, imported accessories and specialty decor to complement the true inner beauty of your home. We are also very proud of the newest addition to our showroom, an exquisite array of brand name outdoor patio furniture, including sofa sets, dining sets, chairs, umbrellas and outdoor lighting. Visit us today and experience our "Total Home" collection.

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tory knows best

Fashion maven Tory Burch's first Canadian boutique is now open in Toronto's Yorkdale Shopping Centre. To celebrate, we highlight the designer's signature style as displayed in her retail shop, so you can easily adapt it to your own digs.

1 IKATS AND SNOW LEOPARD PRINTS are splashed across the walls and upholstery for an on-trend, global look.

2 LUXE BRASS TRIM highlights the built-in shelving and furniture, adding a serious hit of glam to the space.

3 TORY'S SIGNATURE ORANGE HUE gets a lacquer treatment, while a complementary moss green carpets the floor.

4 DECORATIVE DETAILS like these grosgrain-trimmed shades finish off the chandelier like a bracelet completes an outfit.

5 NATURAL MATERIALS like rock crystal lamps and raffia and driftwood accents help ground the vibrant scheme.

6 STRIPED DHURRIE RUGS offer a bold hit of pattern to the floor and look fabulous layered over wall-to-wall carpeting.

BASKET CASE

These vibrant baskets are hand-woven by fair-trade workers using vegetable fibres from Madagascar, so they not only corral clutter in style but give back, too.

Out of Africa marmite **BASKETS,** from $10, S Sense in Design, ssenseindesign.ca.

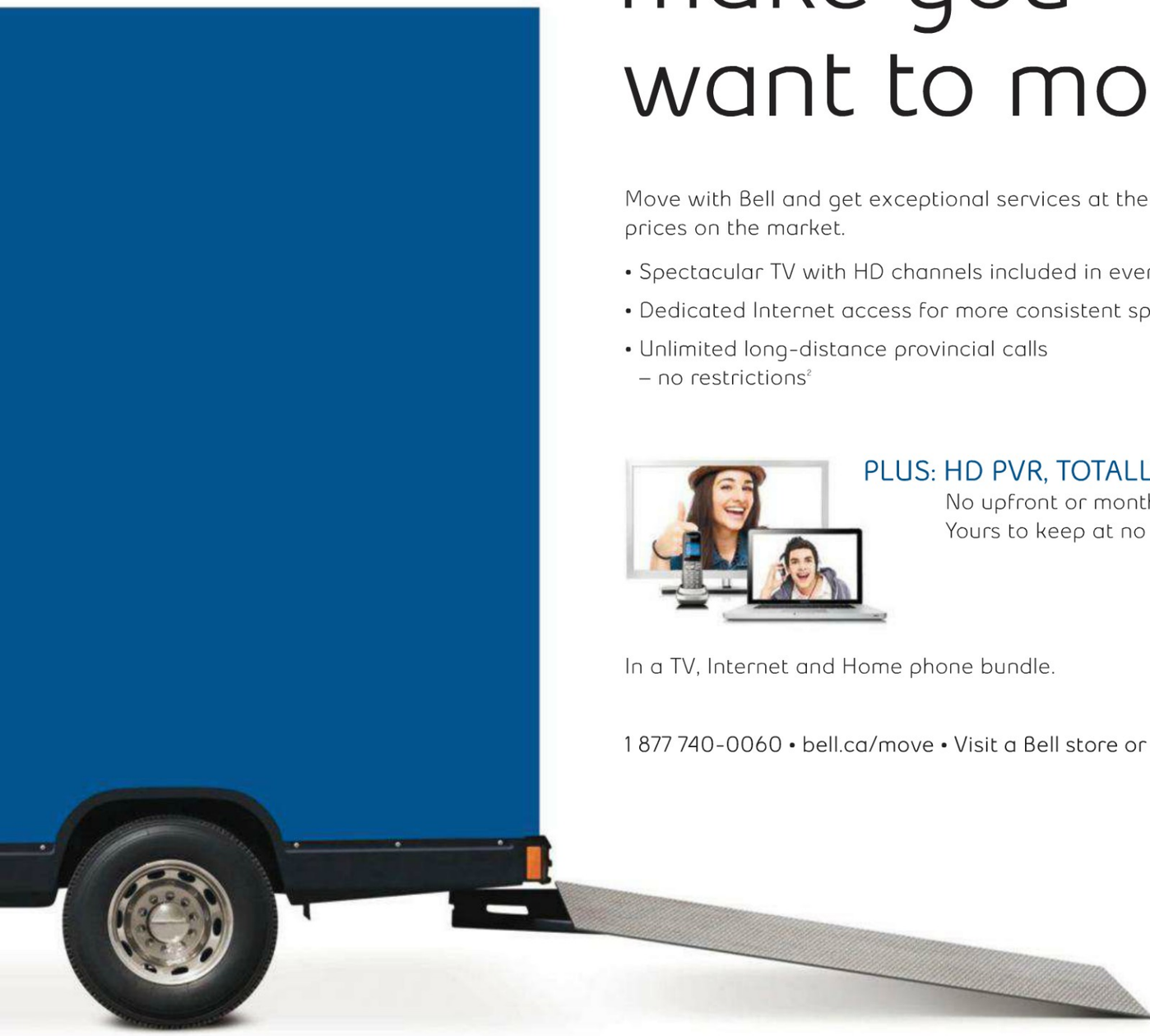
ROUND ROBIN

THE PEDESTAL TABLE IS FAVOURED FOR ITS VERSATILE FUNCTION AND STREAMLINED DESIGN. CANADIAN FAMILY-OPERATED GEOVIN FURNITURE'S HAMPTON COLLECTION FEATURES A BEAUTIFUL VERSION MADE OF SOLID WOOD WITH A BOLD BALUSTRADE BASE. THE TABLE CAN BE CUSTOMIZED IN A VARIETY OF WOOD FINISHES AND ANY BENJAMIN MOORE PAINT COLOUR.

Hampton Collection **PEDESTAL TABLE,** from $1,630, Geovin Furniture, geovin.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA (BASKETS)

Bundles that make you want to move.



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shades *of* summer

Cottage-style colours inspired by the sand and sea are the can't-fail palettes of the season.

SEASIDE

Watery, weathered shades mark this ocean-influenced scheme. Use it to create a calm, serene aesthetic in both bedrooms and baths. Try it with hits of black in accessories and finishes to add a sophisticated, dramatic appeal.

Behr White Fur W-F-610, The Home Depot, homedepot.ca.

Sweet Illusion 148-1, PPG Pittsburgh Paints, ppgpittsburghpaints.com.

Parma Gray 27, Farrow & Ball, farrow-ball.com.

EAST COAST

Seraph C2-492, C2 Paint, c2paint.com.

Drawing Room Blue 253, Farrow & Ball, farrow-ball.com.

Sarah Richardson Designer Palette Flame SR52 (P5074-85), Para Paints, para.com.

These bright, bold Maritime shades are a nod to East Coast Acadian style. The crisp navy blue, deep dove grey and rich red work well in rooms with strong architectural features; alternatively, use them as accents in rugs, toss cushions and other decorative accents.

FLEA MARKET

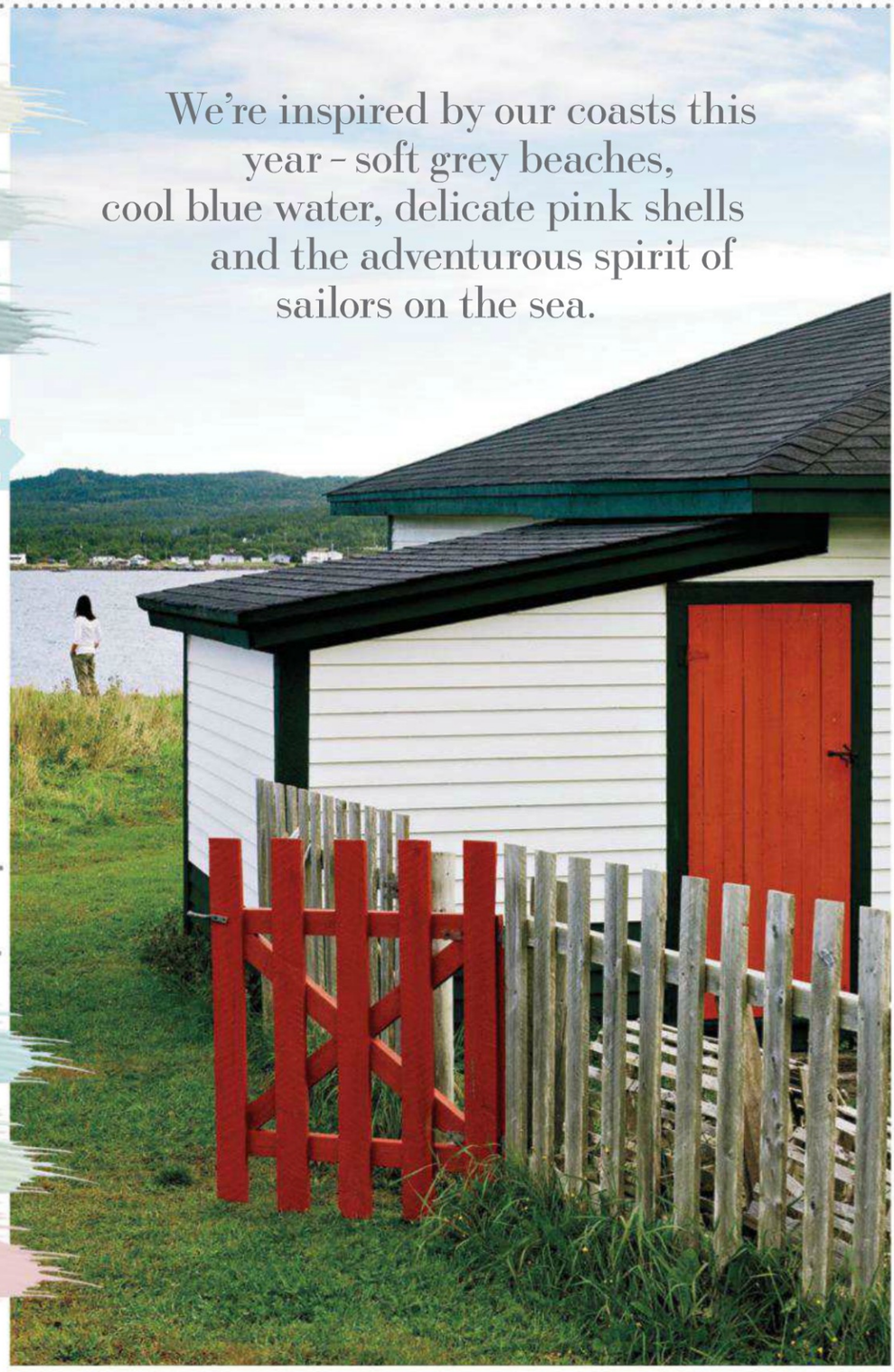
Pretty pastel hues like these create a palette stolen from an old-fashioned candy store. The faded allure of this coloured confection is perfect for painted furniture and flea market finds artfully set off against the timeless backdrop of a pristine white cottage by the sea.

Flowing Breeze 90GG 64/088, CIL Paints, cil.ca.

Frosty Pine C67-2, Olympic Paints and Stains, olympic.com.

Style at Home Colour Collection Tea Rose SD032, Beauti-Tone Paint, beauti-tone.ca.

We're inspired by our coasts this year – soft grey beaches, cool blue water, delicate pink shells and the adventurous spirit of sailors on the sea.



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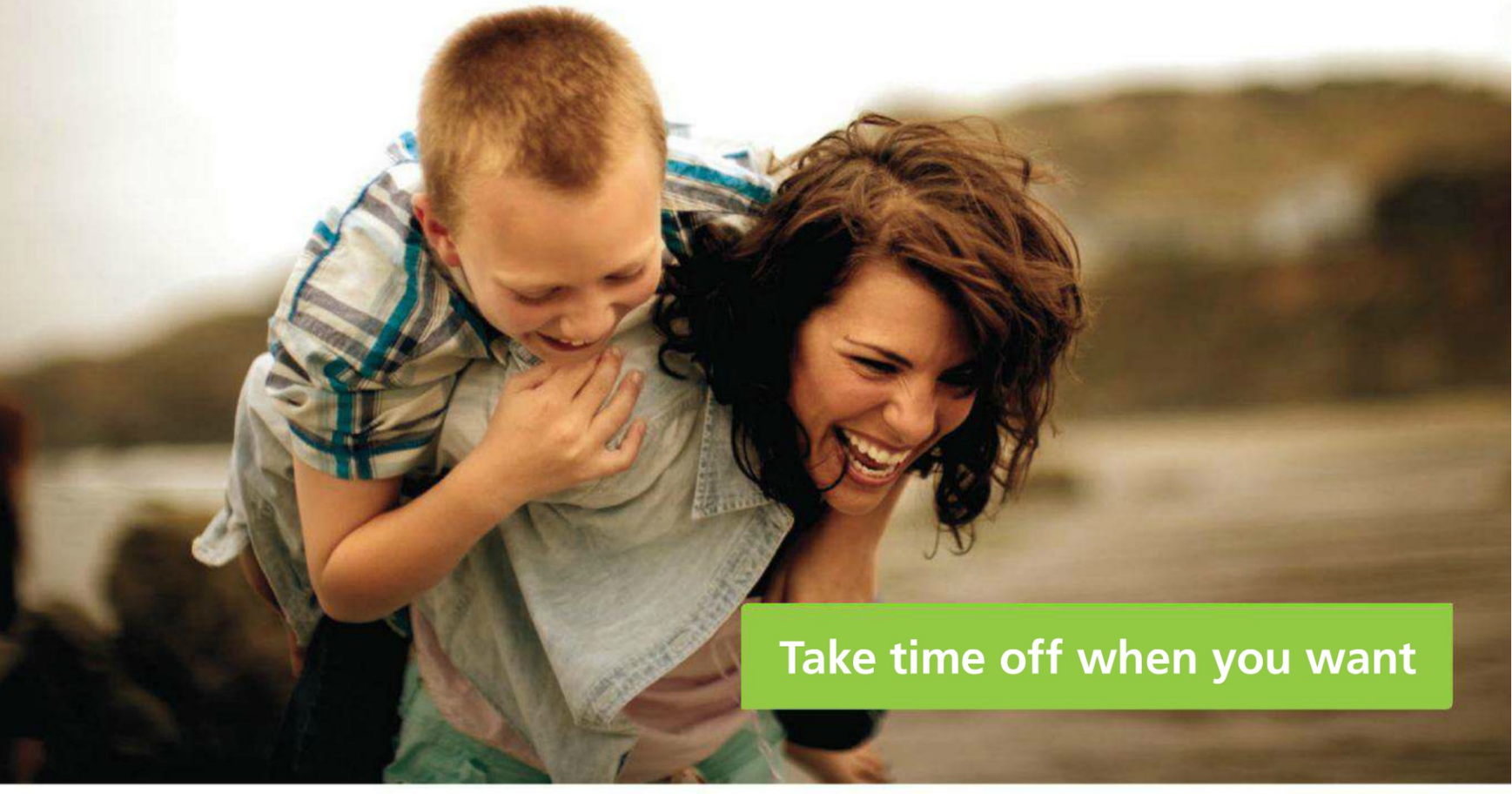

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OUR INSPIRATION

Jadeite – the milky green stain- and heat-resistant glassware popular in the 1940s and '50s – is now in high demand.

THE trend IS

MINT

This summer, vintage jadeite is reimagined as a modern mint hue with just a wink of nostalgia. **PRODUCER** AMANDA ETTY

1 Thibaut Pearl Trellis **WALLPAPER** in Aqua, $102 per roll, through designers, Kravet/Lee Jofa Showroom, kravetcanada.com.

2 Hans Wegner Wishbone **CHAIR** in Mint, $855 US, Design Within Reach, dwr.com.

3 Metal **TASK LAMP** in Seafoam Green, $100, Chapters, Indigo, indigo.ca.

4 Essie Mint Candy Apple **NAIL POLISH,** $10, Shoppers Drug Mart, shoppersdrugmart.ca.

5 Porcelain French Cafe Square **TRAY,** $22 US, Rosanna, rosannainc.com.

6 Coloured **MERINGUES,** $24 per dozen, Madeleines, Cherry Pie & Ice Cream, madeleines.ca.

7 Free People Skinny Pastel **JEANS,** $105, Eluxe, eluxe.ca.

8 Artisan **STAND MIXER** in Pistachio Green, $500, KitchenAid, kitchenaid.ca.

9 Striped Bottle **VASE** by Heather Dahl in Bermuda Green, $44 US, Dahlhaus, dahlhausart.com.

10 Martha Stewart Living Beryl MSL088 **PAINT,** from $36 per gallon, The Home Depot, homedepot.ca.

HANDMADE IN MANY COLOURS AND DELICIOUS FLAVOURS BY TORONTO'S MADELEINES, CHERRY PIE & ICE CREAM.

PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA (INSPIRATION, WALLPAPER, NAIL POLISH, MERINGUES)

Add this fresh hue to your home with more mint green accessories. Visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/MINTGREEN.**

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PRODUCER
TARA BALLANTYNE

TEXT
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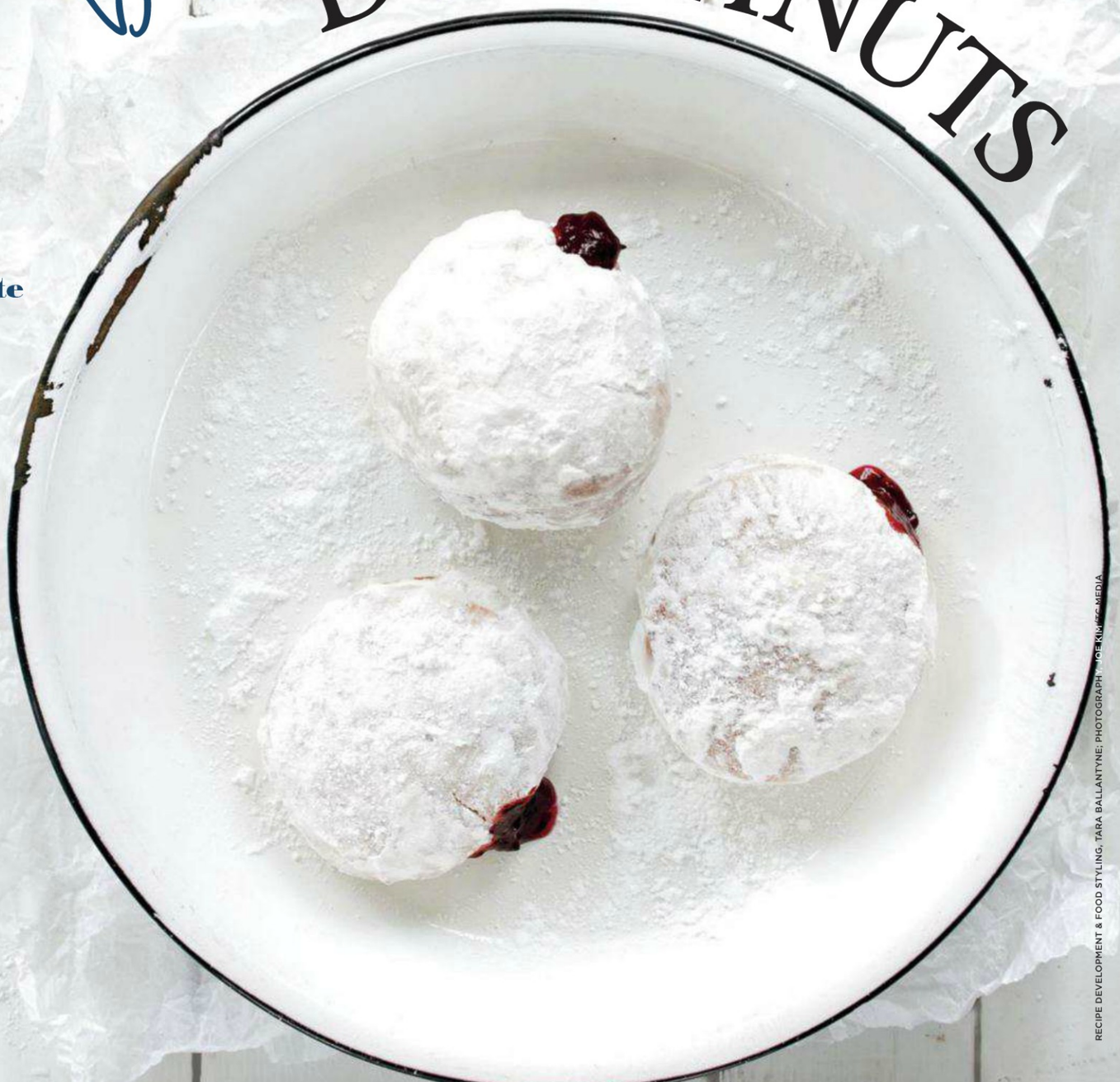
PHOTOGRAPHY
JOE KIM

A soft and sweet, drip-down-your-chin treat that will have you savouring every last bite.

blueberry jelly DOUGHNUTS



If your favourite thing about the county fair is the sugary fried confections, then you know there's nothing like the sensation of biting into a warm, jelly-filled doughnut. The crisp, sweet exterior gives way to the soft, chewy inside and a plump burst of ooey-gooey jelly in the centre. What more could you want? This version, stuffed with a tart blueberry filling and covered with a generous dusting of sinfully sweet icing sugar, is the perfect indulgence. Just don't forget the napkins.

RECIPE DEVELOPMENT & FOOD STYLING: TARA BALLANTYNE; PHOTOGRAPH: JOE KIM/ROC MEDIA

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blueberry jelly doughnuts

INGREDIENTS

MAKES 18 DOUGHNUTS

FOR BLUEBERRY JELLY

2 tbsp cornstarch
2 tbsp water
2 cups fresh blueberries
⅓ cup granulated sugar
1 tsp lemon juice

FOR DOUGHNUTS

2½ tbsp granulated sugar
1 cup warm water
4½ tsp yeast
1 egg, beaten
⅓ cup butter, melted
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1 tsp ground nutmeg
½ vanilla bean, seeds scraped out
½ tsp salt
3½ cups all-purpose flour
Canola oil for frying
Icing sugar for garnish

1. FOR THE BLUEBERRY FILLING, mix the cornstarch and water together in a small bowl until fully combined. In a heavy saucepan over medium heat, bring the blueberries, sugar and lemon juice to a boil, stirring constantly. Add the cornstarch mixture and stir continuously until the filling thickens. Remove from heat; set aside.

2. TO MAKE THE DOUGHNUTS, combine the sugar and warm water in a large bowl. Sprinkle the yeast overtop and stir gently. Let the mixture sit for 5 minutes to allow the yeast to activate. Add the egg, butter, cinnamon, nutmeg, vanilla seeds and salt; mix until well combined.

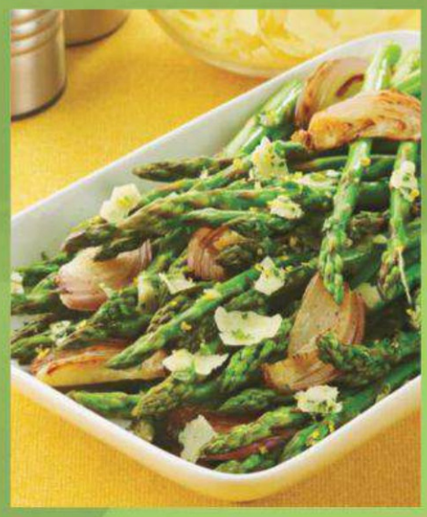
3. SLOWLY STIR IN THE FLOUR until a dough is formed that isn't sticky to the touch. You may need a little less or a little more flour, depending on the size of the egg.

4. REMOVE THE DOUGH from the bowl and knead it on a floured surface for about 2 minutes. Roll out the dough to about ½" thick and cut out circular shapes with a biscuit cutter. Lay the shapes on a baking sheet; let rise for 30 minutes.

5. HEAT THE CANOLA OIL in a large saucepan to 360°F. Fry the doughnuts, turning once so that both sides cook evenly. Drain the doughnuts on a paper towel.

6. PIPE THE BLUEBERRY JELLY into the middle of each doughnut using a pastry bag fitted with a large metal tip. Roll in icing sugar and serve immediately.

COOK TIME
5
MINUTES



OVEN-ROASTED ASPARAGUS WITH PARMESAN GREMOLATA

The **Becel® Buttery Taste Margarine** in this asparagus dish has 80% less saturated fat than butter and a delicious buttery taste you'll love. So why not treat yourself to a little something tasty on the side? It can be our little secret.

10 mL (2 tsp) finely chopped fresh parsley
10 mL (2 tsp) grated parmesan cheese
1 mL (1/4 tsp) grated lemon rind
350 g (3/4 lb) asparagus, trimmed
80 mL (1/3 cup) thinly sliced onion or 2 large shallots, cut into thin wedges
15 mL (1 tbsp) **Becel® Buttery Taste Margarine**

Preheat oven to 425°. Combine parsley, cheese and lemon peel in small bowl; set aside. Toss asparagus, shallots and **Becel® Buttery Taste Margarine** in 13 x 9-inch roasting pan. Roast 15 minutes or until tender. Arrange asparagus mixture on serving platter, then top with cheese mixture. Season, if desired, with freshly ground black pepper.

2 servings
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 15 minutes

For complete nutrition information, visit becel.ca

Visit becel.ca for more delicious recipes.

PEOPLE ALWAYS *ask us*

This issue, the stars of the TV show *Steven and Chris* tell you how to give your bedroom a modern cottage look.

This beautiful light fixture combines the elegance of a chandelier with the beauty of the natural world.

Resin Adirondack Antler **CHANDELIER,** $1,395 US, Restoration Hardware, restorationhardware.com.

inspiration

We love this photograph taken by Christine Flynn of Toronto's Love the Design, which was commissioned by a cottager who wanted to enjoy the lakeside view in his urban home. It's easy to inject that cozy cottage feeling – with a modern twist – into a bedroom with just a few key items.

A grouping of faux moss balls is a fun geometric display of greenery.

Moss-covered **BALLS,** $15 per set of 9, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

Set the stage with an understated headboard set against a wall of exposed knotted-pine panelling.

Belgian Camelback Slipcovered **HEADBOARD,** from $795 US, Restoration Hardware, restorationhardware.com.

This supple leather chair is the perfect shape to curl up in and read a book after a long day. Its stainless steel frame lends a modern touch.

Graydon **CHAIR,** $1,895, Elte, elte.com.

Any type of wooden element will instantly read as warm and rustic and offer you that feeling of being right at the cottage.

Natural Tree Stump **SIDE TABLE,** $239, West Elm, westelm.com.

An antique rug like this one has a timeless quality and pulls together all the colours of the landscape, from rich wood to sky blue.

Heriz Antique **RUG,** 8′ x 11′, $7,895, Elte, elte.com.

Steven Sabados and **Chris Hyndman** are the hosts of the lifestyle show *Steven and Chris*. Watch them weekdays at 2 p.m. on CBC. Catch editor-in-chief **Erin McLaughlin** monthly on the show as a guest expert. If you have a design dilemma, email Steven and Chris at asksstevenandchris@cbc.ca.

Be inspired to beautify your boudoir with 15 more beautiful bedrooms at **STYLEATHOME.COM/BEAUTIFULBEDROOMS.**

PHOTOGRAPHY, CHRISTINE FLYNN, LOVE THE DESIGN, LOVETHEDESIGN.COM (INSPIRATION)

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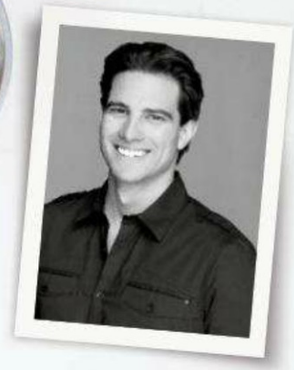
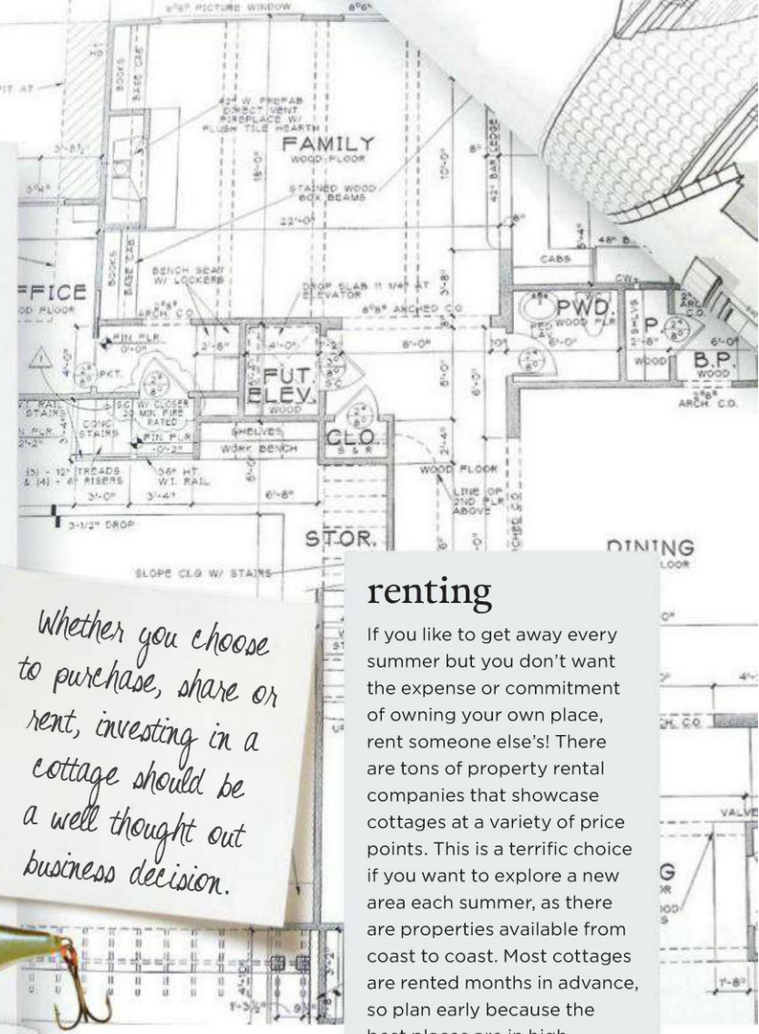
escape to COTTAGE COUNTRY

Owning a cottage is a dream for many, but before you sign on the dotted line, do your homework. Cottages can be costly and, just like a home, require regular maintenance. While it's hard to put a price tag on those summertime memories, making a smart investment should be your No.1 goal.

TEXT SCOTT MCGILLIVRAY





Whether you choose to purchase, share or rent, investing in a cottage should be a well thought out business decision.

buying

You can debate the question of whether a cottage is a luxury splurge or a smart real estate investment. Truthfully, it's a bit of both. If you were lucky enough to inherit or buy lakefront property decades ago, you'd likely do well if you were to sell tomorrow.

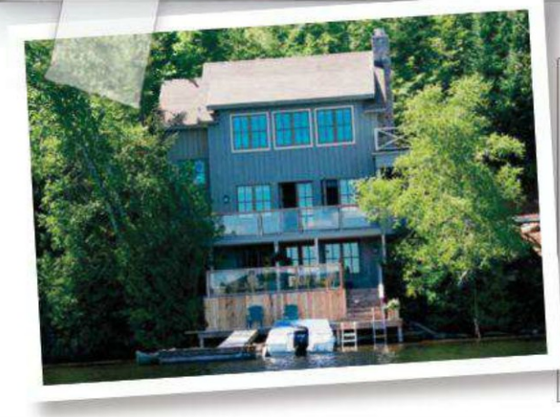
A winterized property may be a wiser investment than a summer home with no insulation and limited access. Cottage prices will range depending on a number of factors. Being less than a two-hour drive from the city on a larger lake is the most desirable but also the most expensive option. There are more-affordable alternatives if you're willing to drive a little farther or settle on a smaller lake.

Everyone must put a little work into their cottage, as it will require regular maintenance. Be sure to choose a property that's manageable and leaves room in your finances for you to put in a dock and buy a boat so that you can enjoy the full potential of the cottage lifestyle.

renting

If you like to get away every summer but you don't want the expense or commitment of owning your own place, rent someone else's! There are tons of property rental companies that showcase cottages at a variety of price points. This is a terrific choice if you want to explore a new area each summer, as there are properties available from coast to coast. Most cottages are rented months in advance, so plan early because the best places are in high demand. July, August and long weekends are the most expensive and difficult to book. If you can take your holidays in June or September and are willing to take a chance on the weather, you can get an incredible deal.

If you're an owner and don't mind the idea of sharing your family retreat, you could cover your taxes, the cost of a new dock or even a new bunkhouse with what you might earn in renting your property for part of the season.



sharing

In the past few years, there has been a big surge in new properties with all of the bells and whistles priced well under $100,000. The catch? You only own a few weeks a year. Be prepared to share your dream getaway with other owners when you're not there. Fractional ownership may not be for everyone, but it's certainly something to consider if it suits your needs and wallet. Check to see if the association or property management company allows you to rent out the weeks you might not use like when the kids are in school. While it's a great way to pool resources and leverage your buying power, it's important to have a lawyer draw up an agreement that clearly states who is allowed to use the cottage when, and outlines other expectations, such as upkeep, mortgage payments and property taxes. Consider sharing a summer rental to test how the arrangement will work before you take the financial leap of faith.

Scott McGillivray is the host of HGTV's *Income Property*. Catch back-to-back episodes Thursdays at 9 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on HGTV.

PHOTOGRAPHY, TIM LEYES, COURTESY OF HGTV CANADA (PORTRAIT); ISTOCKPHOTO (COTTAGE & CHAIRS)

Find out which cottage is right for you. Visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/COTTAGEQUIZ.**

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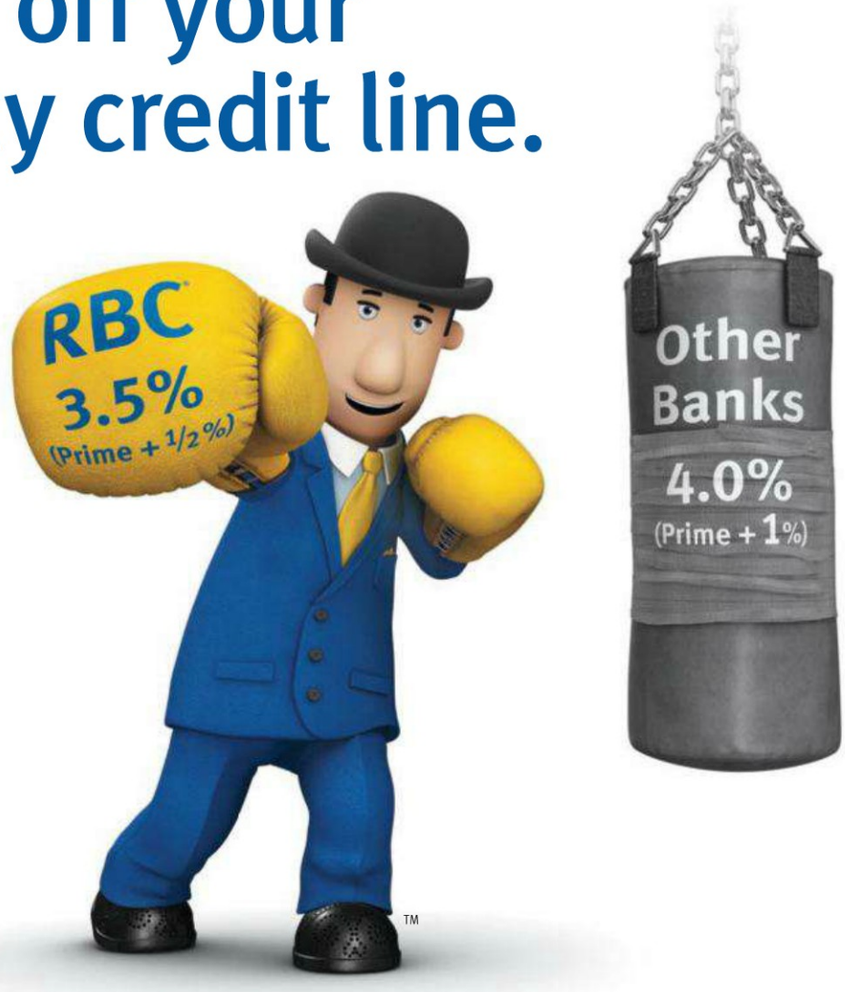

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PRODUCER SARA CATION

it takes two

WHO Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams, co-founders of the furniture empire Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams.

WHY WE LOVE THEM With a respect for the environment, a dedication to charity and a company culture that fosters success, Mitchell Gold (left) and Bob Williams don't just produce beautiful furniture – they create quality pieces with a conscience.

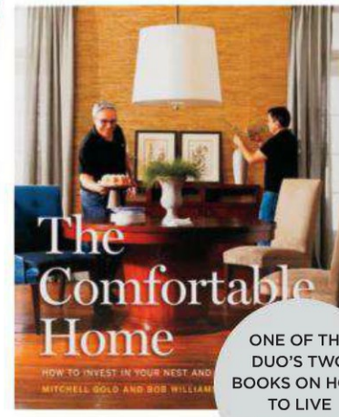
Adding modern elements to traditional furniture is a Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams signature.

Rebecca Sofette in Herati Raspberry from Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams.

STYLE AT HOME Tell us how you met and joined forces.

MITCHELL GOLD We met at a bar in New York – [Bob] was adorable, wearing wire-rimmed glasses and a long Lacoste shirt with Madras Bermuda shorts – and we started dating. By summertime, all we could talk about was starting a business together. We bought property to start a vineyard and Christmas tree farm in Virginia, but about a month later I was promoted at my regular job and we moved to North Carolina. We started the furniture business after that.

Why did moving mean a different business model?



ONE OF THE DUO'S TWO BOOKS ON HOW TO LIVE COMFORTABLY.

M.G. In 1989, we noticed people were staying in more, entertaining at home rather than going out, so we saw an opportunity in the dining niche. We envisioned a little business with 20 to 25 customers, working four days a week, but it took off right away. We sold thousands of chairs the first year!

BOB WILLIAMS And we've never worked four days a week!

We've heard a lot about the strength of your company culture….

M.G. It was selfish, really: We wanted to see smiling faces at work. When we first bought the factory, it wasn't air-conditioned and we couldn't believe how hot it was. That was typical of factories in the '90s, but we thought it was ridiculous. We saved our money for a whole year and, in the spring, had air conditioning installed, and that was just the start. Now we have good coffee, a daycare centre, a college scholarship program and a health care program with a full-time nurse on-staff. Bob and I agree that if you respect your employees, they respect you back.

And in terms of style, how are you similar and how are you different?

M.G. We're really *not* different! We argue about a lot of things but rarely about style. We both have this simple kind of easy, modern aesthetic. We both

PHOTOGRAPHY, FANJOY LABRENZ (PORTRAIT). COURTESY OF MITCHELL GOLD + BOB WILLIAMS (INTERIOR)

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love 18th-century and Mid-Century Modern antiques.

B.W. We like to take traditional pieces and make them more current with colour and fabric, so they feel fresh but familiar at the same time.

What's your earliest memory of decor?

M.G. My parents renovated our house when I was young. When it was done, my mother brought us into the living room and said, "You've seen it; now don't come in here anymore." I remember thinking how ridiculous that was. We never used the front door – always the side door – so I always wanted a living room that's used. To this day, I still come in the front door of my house – even when the side door is more convenient.

B.W. My dad was in the air force when I was growing up, so we moved a lot. I was always amazed at how my mother used the same pieces in different houses to make it feel like home. That set the foundation for me in how to mix and reuse the pieces I have.

You've written two books with the word "comfortable" in the title. How does that fit with your company mandate?

M.G. I am not exaggerating when I tell you that no furniture company used the word "comfort" in 1989 – they only spoke about price and style. But it was an important issue. Comfort, for us, is not only about how a chair feels when you sit in it; it should also look comfortable, the price should be comfortable and the whole transaction should feel comfortable.

And to think all this stems from not being able to go into the living room when you were young!

M.G. Exactly! My family's furniture wasn't that comfortable growing up, and neither was Bob's. In fact, his parents had a really scratchy sofa.

B.W. You couldn't take a nap on it! It was a Brillo pad.

What are the key ingredients for a comfy home?

M.G. One of our mantras is "When a home has been furnished successfully, just walking in the door is like getting a hug." It has to be inviting.

B.W. And it needs to be functional. It's important for homeowners to decide how they want to use the room. Is it going to be a room where everybody watches TV? To lie down and relax? Or is this going to be a room where you are entertaining friends and family and want to encourage easy conversation?

What's the most surprising thing in your homes?

B.W. The most surprising thing isn't inside my home; it's outside my home. And that's the fact that I live in a big red-brick Georgian colonial, which is not what you'd expect. Of course, it's filled with modern furniture and really shows how the two styles can come together.

M.G. I have an Adirondack kind of house. I think the thing that people make the most comments about is that they're surprised that it's not a bigger house, and that it's so comfortable. When people visit, they're a little intimidated at first.... But when they walk in, they immediately feel this good energy.

How do you make your guests feel comfortable?

M.G. We've learned a lot over the years: to welcome people when they first come in the door, to make them feel at home right away, to tell them where the drinks are and to have music playing.

Do you have favourite entertaining music?

B.W. I have a mix of all my favourite songs, so it has no particular attitude – there's country, a bit of rock 'n' roll, some vintage songs and Top 40.

M.G. We had dinner at Bob and Steven's [Steven Heavner is Bob's partner] house on Monday night and they played a vast mix of things, but there's a softness to it all. It's not heavy metal.

What designers, architects and artists have influenced you?

M.G. Paul McCobb and Milo Baughman have been big for me.

B.W. Tommi Parzinger. He was German and became popular in the 1950s and '60s for his accessories – metal wares that feel vintage and modern at the same time.

Where do you go or what do you do when you're feeling uninspired?

M.G. Uninspired? Do we ever feel uninspired?

B.W. I'm a huge magazine fan, so any time I can get a chance to read through a magazine of any kind and find something that's kind of inspiring, it takes about 10 minutes to get inspired again. Inspiration is everywhere!

then & now

1989

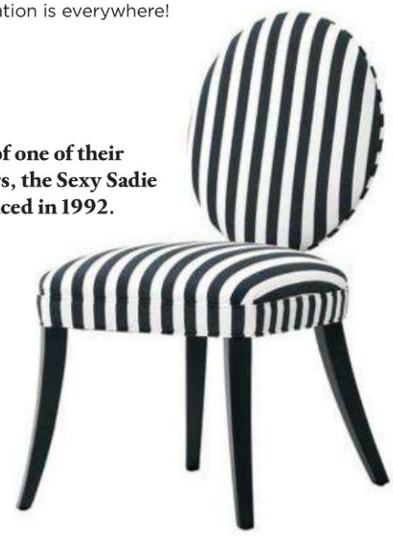
THE COMPANY

Out of a budding romance, Mitchell and Bob started a small business with 23 employees, selling dining tables and chairs in Hickory, N.C.

THE MASCOT

Lulu, the company mascot from 1989 to 2002.

THE FURNITURE



An example of one of their first dining chairs, the Sexy Sadie was introduced in 1992.

2012

BOB

Though no longer dating, Mitchell and Bob remain great friends and powerful business partners with more than 650 employees, 16 signature stores across North America and a vast collection of home furniture and accents sold worldwide.

MITCHELL

THE MASCOT

Violet (left) and Lily are the new company mascots.

THE FURNITURE

A favourite from their newest collection, the Gage dining chair will be available in August 2012.

For more inspiring designer interviews, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/INSIDEDESIGN.**

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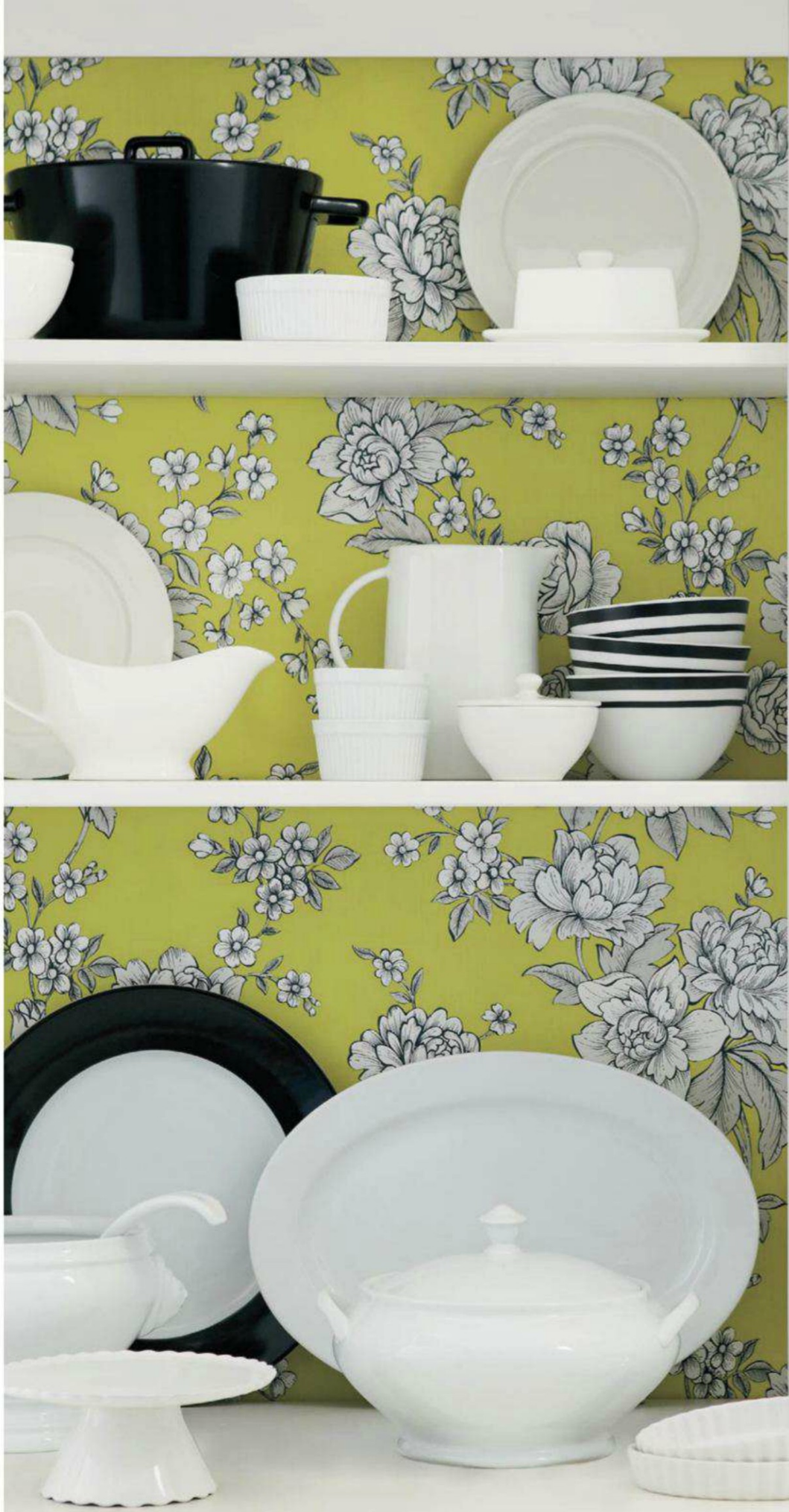

Open shelving not only offers quick access to your favourite dishware but also allows for a dashing display. Here, we've brought all the hostess essentials together for a striking look that keeps everything within easy reach for any event, be it Jamie Oliver casual or Julia Child formal.

$94 Jasper Conran for Wedgwood white bone china Plain **BOWLS,** $47 each, The Bay, thebay.com.

$155 Emile Henry black ceramic Round **CASSEROLE,** 2.6 qt, William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$26 Apilco porcelain Short Soufflé **RAMEKIN** in Medium No.3, Williams-Sonoma, williams-sonoma.com.

$30 Wedgwood White bone china **DESSERT PLATE,** William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$62 Narumi bone china Classic White **SAUCEBOAT,** William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$30 Revol porcelain Soufflé **RAMEKINS,** $15 each, William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$24 Noritake stoneware Colorwave Rim **DINNER PLATE** in Graphite, William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$184 Wedgwood White oval bone china **PLATTER,** 15", William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$214 Apilco porcelain Lion's Head **TUREEN,** Williams-Sonoma, williams-sonoma.com.

$65 Ceramic Great White Soup **TUREEN,** Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.

$35 Small Ceramic White **CAKE STAND,** Williams-Sonoma, williams-sonoma.com.

$30 Wedgwood White bone china **DESSERT PLATE,** William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$75 Pillivuyt porcelain covered **BUTTER DISH,** Williams-Sonoma, williams-sonoma.com.

$94 Jasper Conran for Wedgwood white bone china Plain **PITCHER,** William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$120 Kate Spade for Lenox bone china Pinneys Beach **SOUP/CEREAL BOWLS,** $40 each, William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$172 per yard Beacon Hill linen solid **DRAPERY FABRIC,** through designers, Robert Allen, robertallendesign.com.

$61 Jasper Conran for Wedgwood white bone china Plain covered **SUGAR BOWL,** William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$182 per roll Designers Guild Watelet **WALLPAPER** in Chartreuse P540/06, through designers, Primavera, primavera.ca.

$44 Apilco porcelain **RAMEKINS,** $22 each, Williams-Sonoma, williams-sonoma.com.

$142 Pillivuyt porcelain Queen Anne **PITCHER,** Williams-Sonoma, williams-sonoma.com.

$112 Apilco porcelain Café au Lait **BOWLS,** $28 each, Williams-Sonoma, williams-sonoma.com.

$14 Noritake stoneware Colorwave **MUG** in Graphite, William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$62 Denby White bone china **RICE/FRUIT BOWLS,** $31 each, The Bay, thebay.com.

$39 Ceramic **CASSEROLE** with lid in Black, West Elm, westelm.com.

$3 Danesco white porcelain soufflé **RAMEKIN,** 300ml, William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$4 White Tie **DESSERT PLATE,** HomeSense, homesense.ca.

$6 White ceramic porcelain **RAMEKINS,** 3.6", $3 each, Pier 1 Imports, pier1.ca.

$6 White **SAUCEBOAT,** HomeSense, homesense.ca.

$8 IKEA 365+ **DINNER PLATE** with dark grey rim, IKEA, ikea.ca.

$30 Luminous oval **PLATTER,** 16", Pier 1 Imports, pier1.ca.

$24 PC Home Soup **TUREEN** with ladle, Loblaws, Real Canadian Superstore, realcanadiansuperstore.ca.

$70 Progetti Lions Head Soup **TUREEN,** William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$23 White stoneware small Sweets **PEDESTAL,** Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

$4 White Tie **DESSERT PLATE,** HomeSense, homesense.ca.

$5 Covered **BUTTER DISH,** HomeSense, homesense.ca.

$24 Ceramic Terrain Serveware **PITCHER** in Ivory Gloss, West Elm, westelm.com.

$24 Ceramic Fusion Dinnerware **BOWLS,** $6 each, West Elm, westelm.com.

$30 per yard Linen **DRAPERY FABRIC,** Designer Fabrics, designerfabrics.ca.

$20 GlucksteinHome stoneware Suede Glacee **SUGAR BOWL,** The Bay, thebay.com.

$60 per roll Kensington **WALLPAPER** in Chartreuse 30-755, Graham & Brown, grahambrown.ca.

$26 Revol porcelain Flan **RAMEKINS** in White, 6", $13 each, William Ashley, williamashley.com.

$10 White Portugal **PITCHER,** HomeSense, homesense.ca.

$24 Latte **BOWLS** in Parchment, $6 each, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

$3 IKEA 365+ **MUG** in Dark Grey, IKEA, ikea.ca.

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Kate Spade for Lenox Dogwood Point **DINNER PLATE,** $45, **LUNCH PLATE,** $40, and **CUP,** $39, William Ashley, williamashley.com.

HIGH

Atelier **DISH SET,** $39 per 16-piece set, Urban Barn, urbanbarn.com.

LOW

WHERE THE wild plates are

So you want to take a step in the bold direction but don't want to head into the proverbial jungle of wild wallpaper just yet? Achieve a similar high-contrast effect with a solid chartreuse shelf backing (see our paint picks on page 54) and layer in some floral dinnerware for a punch of pattern. Whether you select a heavy-handed dose of black, a light outline on white or a hint of chartreuse, these floral patterns bring a touch of daring design to your kitchen cupboard – even better if they're on display!

or add a little colour!

Chloe **DISH SET,** $39 per 16-piece set, Urban Barn, urbanbarn.com.

PUT A LID **ON IT**

A FEW FLAVOURFUL INGREDIENTS PLUS ONE POT EQUALS A TASTY MEAL WITH VIRTUALLY NO MESS, SO CERAMIC CASSEROLES SHOULD GRACE THE CUPBOARDS OF EVERY HOME. THE **HIGH** IS DISHWASHER- AND MICROWAVE-SAFE (AS IS THE **LOW**) BUT IS ADDITIONALLY SAFE FOR THE BARBECUE, OFFERS AN INDUCTION DISH OPTION (SOLD SEPARATELY) AND IS FOOTED FOR EASY HEAT DIFFUSION.

HIGH

LOW

HIGH Emile Henry black ceramic Round **CASSEROLE,** 2.6 qt., $155, William Ashley, williamashley.com. **LOW** Ceramic **CASSEROLE** with lid in Black, $39, West Elm, westelm.com.

Designers Guild Watelet **WALLPAPER** in Chartreuse P540/06, $182 per 11-yard roll, through designers, Primavera, primavera.ca.

HIGH

wall flowers

With detail that looks more like an artist's intricate pencil sketch than a wallpaper print, the **high** wallpaper, though only three-toned, offers ample depth. The **low** paper boasts linear striations for texture and is, by nature, super-easy to apply to walls – yay!

Kensington **WALLPAPER** in Chartreuse 30-755, $60 per 10-yard roll, Graham & Brown, grahambrown.ca.

LOW

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RAMEKIN ME CRAZY

YOU SIMPLY CAN'T CALL YOURSELF THE "HOSTESS WITH THE MOSTEST" WITHOUT AT LEAST ONE SET OF RAMEKINS STOCKED IN YOUR KITCHEN. WHETHER YOU USE THEM FOR DISPLAYING (THEIR RIBBED SIDING ADDS TEXTURE), MAKING (THEY'RE GREAT FOR SORTING PRE-MEASURED INGREDIENTS), BAKING (THEY'RE ALL OVEN-SAFE), SERVING (THE PORTION-SIZE DISHES CAN GO STRAIGHT FROM OVEN TO TABLE) OR ALL OF THE ABOVE, THEY'RE AN ESSENTIAL FOR EASY ENTERTAINING.

(1) Revol white porcelain Soufflé **RAMEKINS,** $15 each, (2) Danesco white porcelain soufflé **RAMEKINS,** $3 each, William Ashley, williamashley.com. (3) White ceramic porcelain **RAMEKIN,** 3.6", $3, (4) white ceramic porcelain **RAMEKINS,** 5.25", $4 each, Pier 1 Imports, pier1.ca. (5) Apilco porcelain Short Soufflé **RAMEKINS** in Medium No.3, $26 each, Williams-Sonoma, williams-sonoma.com.

top of the charts

A colour that almost vibrates with energy, chartreuse provides bold backing for a black and white display, engaging the eye and amplifying the graphic details. Below, we introduce our four favourite shades of chartreuse.

Behr Pear 400A-3, The Home Depot, homedepot.ca.

Glimmer of Lime 16-8, Pratt & Lambert, prattandlambert.com.

Limelight 2025-40, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca.

Ready 2K1-6, Beauti-Tone Paint, beauti-tone.ca.

window shopping

When it comes to dressing windows, linen provides privacy but still lets in the light. The **high** is a heavier weight (meaning it's more opaque), while the **low** is a lighter weight and comes in a double width (meaning double the savings). A strip of ribbon in natural silk (high) or polyester (low) completes the look.

HIGH

Beacon Hill Linen Solid **DRAPERY FABRIC** in White, $172 per yard, through designers, Robert Allen, robertallendesign.com; Book 50,000 silk grosgrain **RIBBON DETAIL** in Black, $24 per metre, Mokuba, 416-504-5358.

LOW

Linen double-width **DRAPERY FABRIC** in White, $30 per yard, Designer Fabrics, designerfabrics.ca; Book 8,000 polyester grosgrain **RIBBON DETAIL** in Black, $5 per metre, Mokuba, 416-504-5358.

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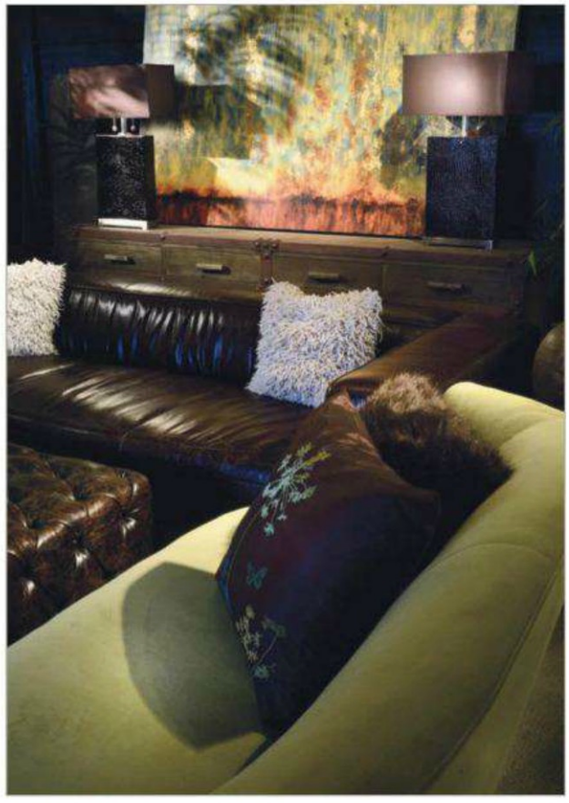

Home

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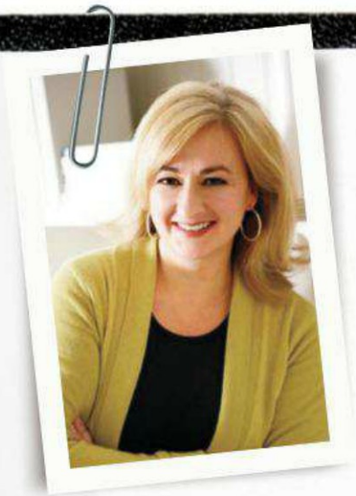

Christine's guide to SLIPCOVERS

PRODUCER CHRISTINE HANLON

Unlike their slouchy predecessors (which looked more like oversized sacks), today's slipcovers are sophisticated and refined. Like practical clothing for your furniture, they can be customized and allow for instant room reinvention at a low cost.

Jesse slipcovered Alfred **SOFA,** South Hill Home, southhillhome.com.

before you buy

- **Decide if you want a custom,** a casual-fit or a ready-made slipcover. The price will reflect your choice, custom being the most expensive (but still cheaper than reupholstering or buying a brand new piece).
- **Consider your fabric choices,** both the material and whether you want a solid or a pattern. My personal favourites for slipcovers are solids, stripes and mini checks, such as gingham. If you choose a patterned fabric, remember that you'll need to order more yardage, depending on the repeat.
- **Think about the details,** such as piping and skirts, and don't be afraid to ask about adding a particular embellishment you like.
- **Bring pictures of your inspiration** with you for reference and be sure to include swatches of other fabrics and paints used in the room, as well as existing arm caps (for profile) and seat covers.

styling secrets

1. Heavy fabrics, such as linen, work best for slipcovers because they drop nicely and stay in place.

2. For a unique custom embellishment, try inverted kick pleats in a contrasting colour for the skirt.

3. A tight-fitting slipcover with minimal detailing and no skirt offers a clean look that mimics upholstery.

4. Throw the slipcover in the dryer for a few minutes with a damp tea towel – the wrinkles will steam right out!

5. To freshen the look, switch your slipcovers seasonally, or even just twice a year.

glossary

Slipcover A removable fabric cover that fits over your existing furniture; can be tailored, casually fitted or ready-made.

C.O.M. Customer's own material. A popular option to customize standard furniture by buying and supplying your own fabric.

Pleat A type of fold used along the skirt to create a fullness that isn't frilly. Common styles of pleats include knife pleats, box pleats and kick pleats.

Piping In upholstery, a type of trim or embellishment consisting of a strip of folded fabric inserted into a seam to define the edges or style lines of the furniture.

tip When ordering a casually fitted slipcover, you'll need to provide a simple set of measurements (including width across the back, inside back, overall height, seat width and seat depth). For a custom slipcover that's tailored to the piece of furniture, the seamstress will take the measurements herself.

FOR MORE TIPS AND SLIPCOVERED ARMCHAIRS, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

6 stylish options

Fashion-forward, streamlined and tailor-made in fine fabrics with look-at-me detailing, slipcovers offer a sought-after bespoke quality we all desire in our homes. While slipcovers can be custom made for existing furniture, retailers offer many ready-made options for popular furniture styles in their own collections.

Suzanne Kasler slipcovered Chastain **CHAIR,** from $2,130 US, Hickory Chair Furniture, hickorychair.com.

Slipcovered Slope Arm **DINING CHAIR,** from $395 US, Restoration Hardware, restorationhardware.com.

Slipcovered Cheshire Roll **ARMCHAIR,** from $1,619, Ethan Allen, ethanallen.com.

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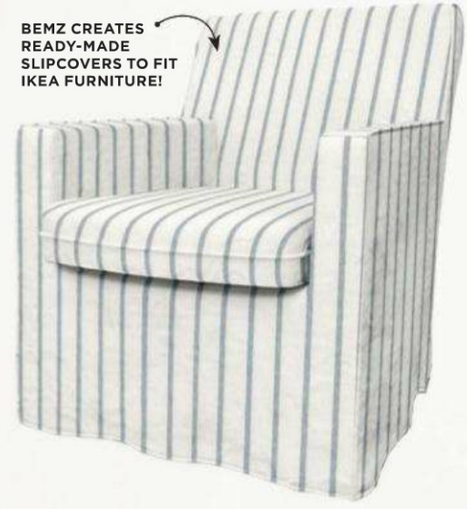


Loose Fit Urban Karlstad **ARMCHAIR COVER** in Cloud Brera Fino, $289, Bemz, bemz.com.

Slipcovered Carlisle **ARMCHAIR,** from $1,384, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.

Slipcovered Portico Swivel Glider **ARMCHAIR** in Deso Spruce, $1,199, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

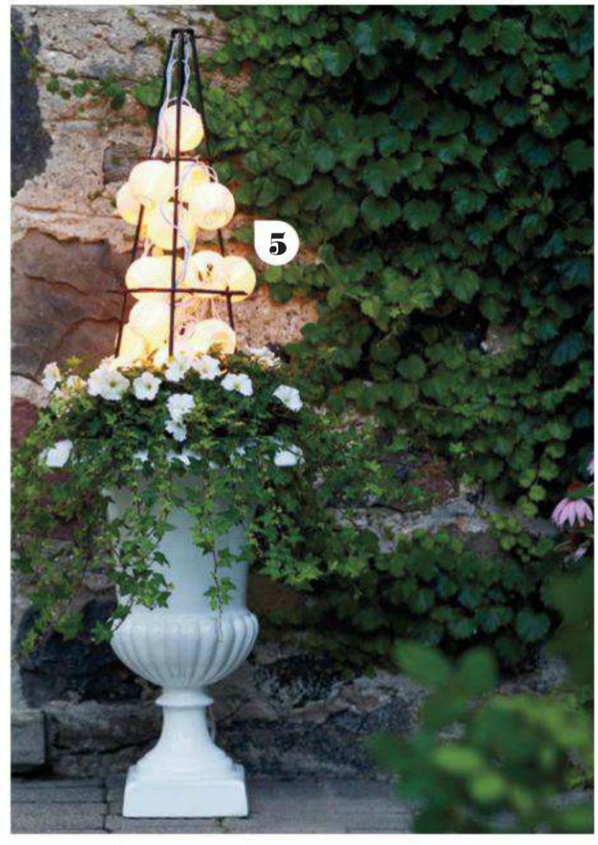
TEXT
SUZANNE MOUTIS

PHOTOGRAPHY
ANDREAS TRAUTTMANSDORFF

STYLING
CHRISTINE HANLON

Capture the magic of faraway constellations by creating a starry wonderland in your own backyard. Armed with candles, string lights and lanterns, we fashion six simple ways to cast a summer evening spell and make your entertaining glow.

Shining EXAMPLES



1 String lights make a radiant focal point when massed around a wire obelisk and placed into a garden bed. Create even more impact by lining a garden pathway with a series of them.

2 Wind string lights up and over an archway for a warm and welcoming entry to a space set aside for lounging. Don't worry if you don't have enough foliage to conceal them. As darkness falls their subtle glimmer will take centre stage and everything else will simply fade away.

3 Drop two or three star-shaped lanterns from overhanging branches to add some drama and to delineate the space. Make sure you choose large, sturdy branches for weighty lights like these.

4 Pierced ceramic hurricane lanterns give off pinpricks of light, lending a soft glow to the tablescape. Keep opaque lanterns low enough so that easy conversation can still take place over them.

5 Gather paper lantern string lights beneath an obelisk or overturned tomato cage and fix in the centre of a planted container arrangement for a sophisticated effect.

6 Anchor votive holders in a shallow bowl with sand, stones and seashells for a glowing centrepiece. Set in the middle of the dining table or on a nearby low cocktail table with drinks and snacks at the ready.

FOR MORE BACKYARD LIGHTING IDEAS, SEE PAGE 102

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TEXT JENNIFER HUGHES
PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL GRAYDON

designing women

When it comes to decorating on a dime, the owners of Charlottetown's Turquoise Shed Designs know how to bring a sea of ideas home.

TIP
Create instant art with an empty frame surrounding some wall flowers.

A wall between the front entry and living room was removed, along with the ceiling. To maintain some division, homeowner Melissa VanToever's brother built a tall storage unit, which holds a TV on one side and hooks and cubbies on the other.

DESIGN, Turquoise Shed Designs, turquoise-sheddesigns.com; Smoky Green CC-700 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; blue **BENCH & MIRROR,** Turquoise Shed Designs; white Wallflower **WALL DECOR,** Umbra.

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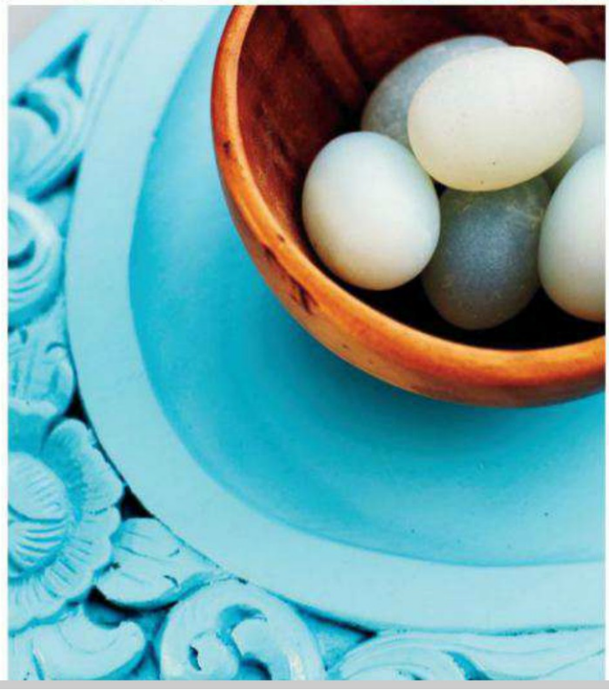
Find them in the refrigerated section.
Suggested serving. JELL-O snacks.

Melissa (sitting at right) and Carly Martin make up the creative duo of Turquoise Shed Designs.

TIP
Combine natural fabrics like burlap and linen for a pleasing effect.

When it comes to colour, this designing duo likes to keep things fun, fresh and a bit playful. "We think of turquoise as a neutral colour," say Melissa VanToever and Carly Martin of Charlottetown's Turquoise Shed Designs. The pair started their custom furniture refinishing business only two years ago. "We couldn't find much that was our style on P.E.I., so we started creating it ourselves," explains Carly. It quickly spun into a full-service design company that sees them handling everything from window coverings to whole-house jobs.

Four years ago, Melissa and her husband, John Michael Murphy, bought this 90-year-old, three-bedroom duplex (they rent out the other half) in the heart of Charlottetown. With lots of help from family and friends, every wall was torn out, allowing them to open up the main floor's three small rooms into a single large, airy space. Even the ceiling was ripped down, exposing beams



ABOVE The living room's dark grey sectional was the "first real furniture purchase" for Melissa and her husband. The artwork above the sectional was a wedding gift.

Silver Streak 50BG 76/023 **WALL PAINT,** CIL Paints; **SECTIONAL,** Home Furniture; **RUG,** spool **SIDE TABLE,** octopus **TOSS CUSHION,** Cottage Industry; custom **DRAPERY,** Turquoise Shed Designs.

LEFT Melissa's love of turquoise also extends to accents in the home, as seen here in this pretty tray.

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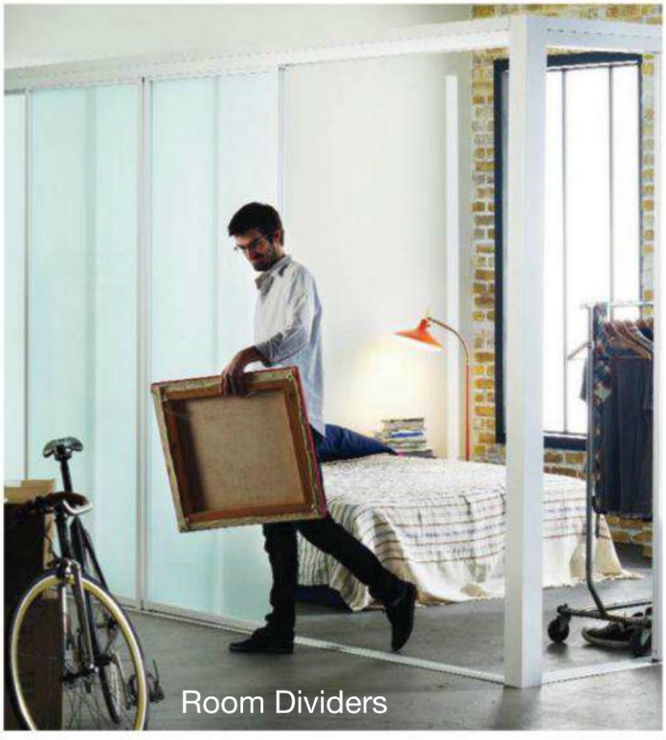
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that were probably taken from old ships, still with large bits of marine hardware left intact. "My dad smashed a hole in the ceiling and poked his head through to see what was up there first," Melissa says with a laugh. The character of the rich, dark wood, combined with the extra height, led to the decision to leave the ceiling uncovered.

With the walls down and the original hemlock floors patched and refinished, it was time for Melissa and Carly to work their magic on the decor. As avid treasure hunters who love scouring flea markets, Kijiji and garage sales to find unique furniture to make over into one-of-a-kind pieces for clients' homes, they naturally took the same approach here. "Budget was a driving factor in every decision, from the renovation to the decorating," says Melissa. They searched the province – driving as far as two hours to pick up an armchair – and stashed pieces in the yard's

ABOVE The teak dining table and chairs in the eat-in kitchen were bought from a used furniture shop and treated to new, textured vinyl upholstery in a bold turquoise shade.

Gray Owl 2137-60 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **BLIND,** Fabricville.

LEFT Simple white china mixes with thrift-store turquoise glass plates for a fresh tabletop look.

FAR LEFT Dark green cabinets in the kitchen were updated with white paint and new hardware. Bright, high-gloss yellow paint on the backsplash that easily wipes clean is an affordable alternative to tile.

Bake it on. We'll take it off.

The More Cheese the Cheesier Baked Pasta

By celebrity chef, David Rocco

1 lb. (500 g) rigatoni pasta
4 tbsp (60 mL) extra-virgin olive oil
2 garlic cloves, chopped
1 large eggplant, cubed
15 black olives, pitted and chopped
10 large sun-dried tomatoes, chopped
2 dried chili peppers, crushed (optional)
Salt to taste
3 cups (750 mL) tomato purée
¾ lb. (375 g) mozzarella cheese, shredded
¾ lb. smoked scamorza cheese, roughly chopped
½ cup freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, for sprinkling
½ cup freshly grated Asiago cheese, for sprinkling

Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C). Boil water and cook pasta. Heat saucepan over medium-high heat. Add extra-virgin olive oil and garlic, sauté until light brown. Add eggplant, olives, sun-dried tomatoes and chili peppers. Sauté until eggplant is soft and slightly golden. Then add salt and tomato purée. Simmer 5–10 minutes.
Drain cooked pasta and return to the pot. Add sauce mixture, mozzarella and scamorza. Mix well. Transfer to a large baking dish, top with Parmigiano-Reggiano and Asiago and bake for 30 minutes or until golden and crisp.

Make the foods you love and clean the baked-on messes they leave behind, thanks to the micro-scrubbing enzymes in **Cascade All-in-One Pacs** and **Dawn Power Lift**.

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For more of David Rocco's recipes, visit /CascadeDawn

spacious back shed (indeed, the turquoise shed that inspired their company name) until the house was finished.

After the pair applied a lick of paint here, a bold touch of patterned fabric there, the house was furnished with a charming mix of new and refurbished pieces. And, of course, there are lots of splashes of turquoise in various intensities, on everything from an oversized mirror frame in the front entry to the master bedroom walls. "It really works with just about everything," says Melissa.

TIP
Scour flea markets and garage sales for unique finds at great prices.

ABOVE To counteract the master bedroom's turquoise walls, everything else in the space was kept in a neutral white or beige. The vintage headboard was painted white and reupholstered in a natural linen, which was also used for the drapery.

Blue Grass CC-640 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **TABLE LAMP, TOSS CUSHIONS,** HomeSense; **BEDDING,** Fabricville.

LEFT Melissa had this tall corner cabinet built to offer storage for the main floor's playroom (originally the dining room), where the kids can be watched from the living room or kitchen. It's hard to believe that the newly reupholstered armchair, found on Kijiji, used to sport retro green fabric.

RUG, SIDE TABLE, Cottage Industry.

Turquoise Shed Designs's favourite shades of blue

bold
Sea Life 490B-4, Behr

fun
Spectra Blue 2049-50, Benjamin Moore

calm
Blue Grass CC-640, Benjamin Moore

subtle
Storytime 95GG 78/054, Dulux Paints

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

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MIAMI MEETS *MUSKOKA*

Designer Jennifer Ferreira transforms a Canadian boathouse into a tropics-inspired guest house.

TIP
Use palm fronds to reference southern climes.

TEXT BETHANY LYTTLE

PHOTOGRAPHY ANGUS FERGUSSON

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PREVIOUS PAGE & ABOVE The black and white palette is a far cry from the blues and reds typical of nautical decorating.

DESIGN, Ferreira Design, ferreiradesign.com; **SOFA, ARMCHAIRS,** IKEA; **COFFEE TABLE, RUGS, TELESCOPE,** Elte; **DIRECTOR'S CHAIRS, PHOTOGRAPH,** Ferreira Design; **VASES,** Angus & Company; **TRAY,** West Elm.

ABOVE RIGHT A model schooner and ocean treasures keep the room beachy without being predictable.

Lakes and docks, the call of loons, rocky shorelines and rustic cottages are the hallmarks of Canadian cottage country, but that didn't stop Toronto designer Jennifer Ferreira from drawing on a chic Floridian aesthetic when she designed this 1,000-square-foot boathouse on Ontario's Lake Muskoka. Inspired by the homeowners' annual vacation spot in Miami Beach, Jennifer took artistic licence to reference the elements in a sophisticated black and white colour scheme coupled with organic touches. "I realized it's an easy serenity that marks modern Miami style," she says, "and that no matter where you are, you can always decorate to evoke that beachy simplicity."

Inside the two-bedroom boathouse, which the owners use as a guest house and entertaining venue, views of Lake Muskoka, just beyond the French doors, remain the focus. A few simple, oversized pieces of furniture give the space its less-is-more look, and allusions to its southern geographical counterpart are subtle. A nod to the white buildings of Miami Beach finds expression in the all-white walls of the open structure, and a vase of tropical greens hints at Florida's towering palm trees. Beyond this, the decor has a minimalist appearance that seamlessly brings the outside in. Furnishings are spare, accents are few, and details, though softly nautical, don't go overboard. Even the room's textures – the rough grassy surface of a sisal rug, the lazy drape of linen – are easygoing and relaxed.

"Muskoka is about being outside, so I wanted to design a place where there was a sense of openness," says Jennifer. "When you open the doors, it's like you're

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5 ways to care for your sensitive skin

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2 Avoid "triggers".

> Try to stay clear of things that can potentially irritate your skin, such as harsh weather or pollution. Your skin reacts to what is going on in your life, so take a break and relax—your skin will thank you. "Try not to constantly touch your face, and replace your makeup regularly," says Dr. Poonam Rajan, Toronto dermatologist and member of Simple® Advisory Board.

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No matter what your décor style may be, **Scotties** has a style-savvy tissue box to complement any room in your home.

DESIGN 1:
A soft and pretty image evokes the cottage look and creates a casual – and stylish – "photograph" to sit in any room in the house.

This past Spring our Editor-in-Chief Erin McLaughlin teamed with Scotties to create three box designs, based on this year's hottest decor trends. One box will be declared the winner and sold in stores! Pick up the September issue of Style at Home to see which design was voted the winner!

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TIP
Try subtle nautical stripes to offer ship-shape style.

Linen bedding and a Roman shade give this bedroom a fresh beachy feel.

BEDDING, Au Lit Fine Linens; **TABLE LAMP,** IKEA; **STOOL,** Angus & Company; **BLIND,** Ferreira Design.

BELOW A floating vanity, clean lines and white fixtures keep the simple-is-serene aesthetic in the bathroom.

completely outdoors: You feel the warm lake breeze and hear the water under you." Airy architectural details, such as the vaulted ceiling in the sunlit living room, facilitate this – and always, the sounds of waves on the shore and paddles dipping into the lake are in earshot.

To make the most of the effect, Jennifer relied on the following guiding design principles, and passes them along to anyone who's interested in achieving the look. "Keep things simple; don't overdecorate," she advises. Use furniture pieces with clean lines to provide a backdrop for accents and bits of colour, and add organic elements by incorporating tropical details. Even in northern climes, a sisal or seagrass rug and some green palm fronds will impart south-of-the-border flair. Finally, if you're designing a casual space for summer, turn to linen. It's surprisingly dirt resistant and retains moisture without feeling damp. "No matter where you are," says Jennifer, "you'll feel that relaxed beachy vibe."

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

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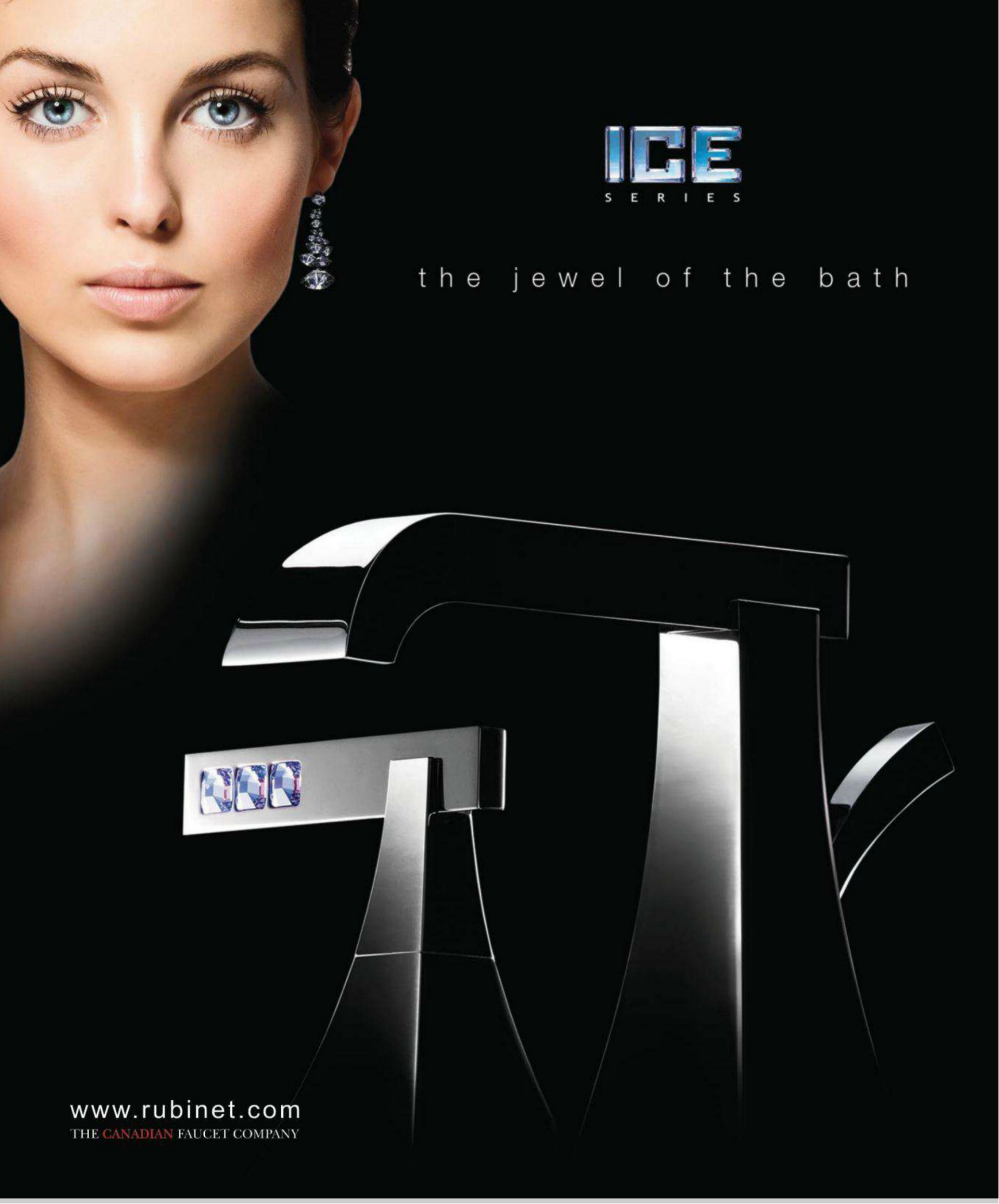
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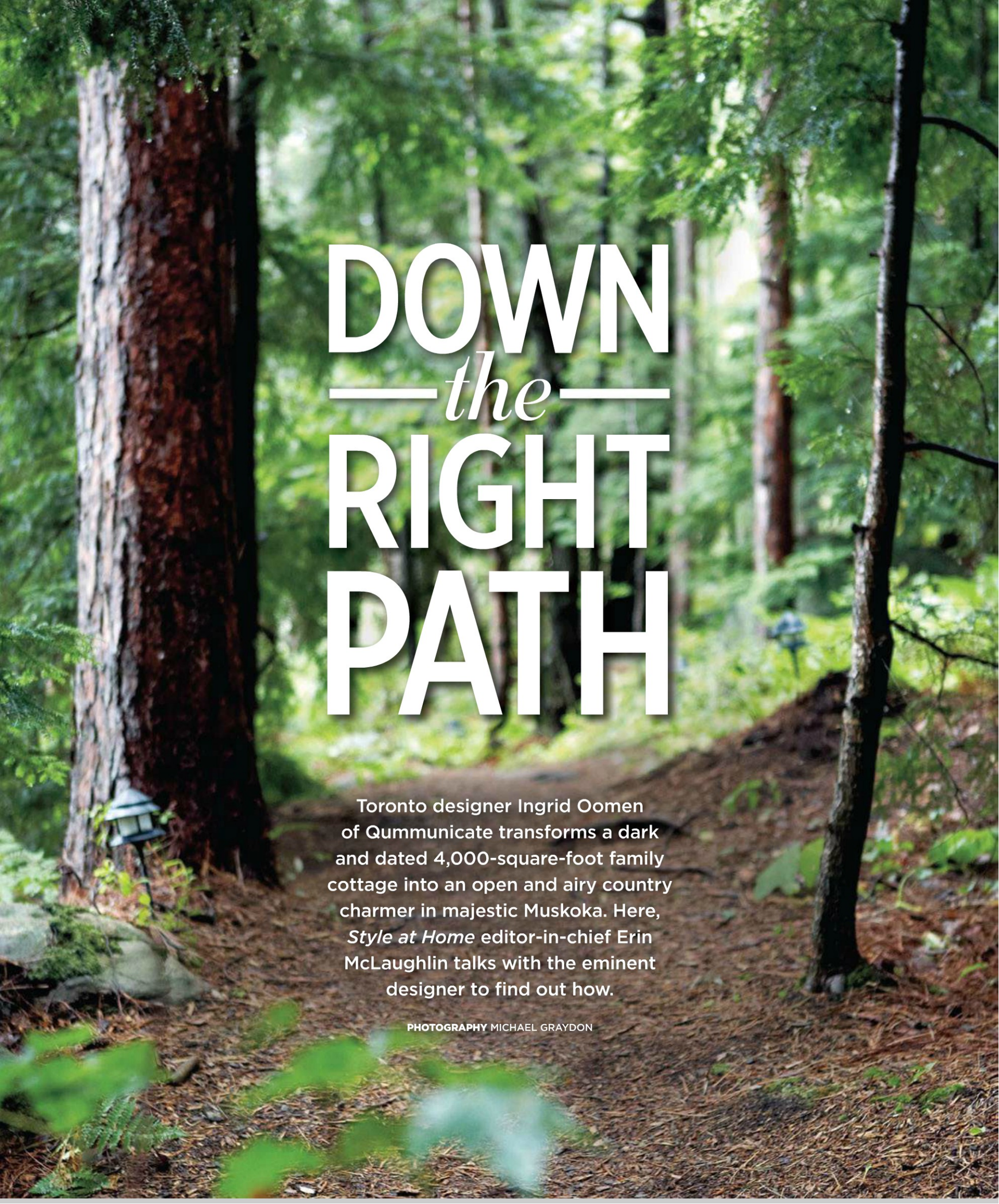
PHOTOGRAPHY, ROBIN STUBBERT

Glass-panelled doors offer a relaxing view of the landscape, creating the perfect ambience for this casual reading nook.

DESIGN, Qummunicate, qummunicate.com; wooden **ROCKING CHAIR, SIDE TABLE,** HillTop Interiors.



DOWN *the* RIGHT PATH

Toronto designer Ingrid Oomen of Qummunicate transforms a dark and dated 4,000-square-foot family cottage into an open and airy country charmer in majestic Muskoka. Here, *Style at Home* editor-in-chief Erin McLaughlin talks with the eminent designer to find out how.

PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL GRAYDON

"IT'S THE RELATIONSHIPS **BETWEEN ME AND MY CLIENTS THAT MAKE** EACH SPACE SPECIAL."

ERIN MCLAUGHLIN What's your style?

INGRID OOMEN I try to stay away from trends and tend to gravitate toward things that have a history and a patina to them.

How would you describe your overall approach to design?

Function comes first for me. I consider how a space is going to be used, how natural light can be introduced and how rooms will interact with one another.

Why did these homeowners enlist your help?

They wanted the cottage to have more usable space.

What was your first impression of the cottage?

A Tiffany fire sale! The cottage was overwhelmed by a collection of at least 50 light fixtures of all different shapes and sizes. It was also surprisingly dark, and the lakeside views were not being maximized.

What was your vision for the space?

I wanted the cottage to feel very open and airy, which was achieved by raising the ceilings to create a larger volume of space.

You reconfigured the cottage without adding to the square footage. How did you accomplish that?

The revamped floor plan involved flipping the living and dining rooms. We also opened up the new dining area to the kitchen.

I'm completely drawn to the dark hardwood floors – they look black.

The floors are actually dark brown and are meant to have a grounding effect.

LEFT The redesign of the kitchen, now boasting a large-scale island and pantry, allowed it to become the heart of the cottage. "It feels like a natural place to congregate between the spaces," says designer Ingrid Oomen.

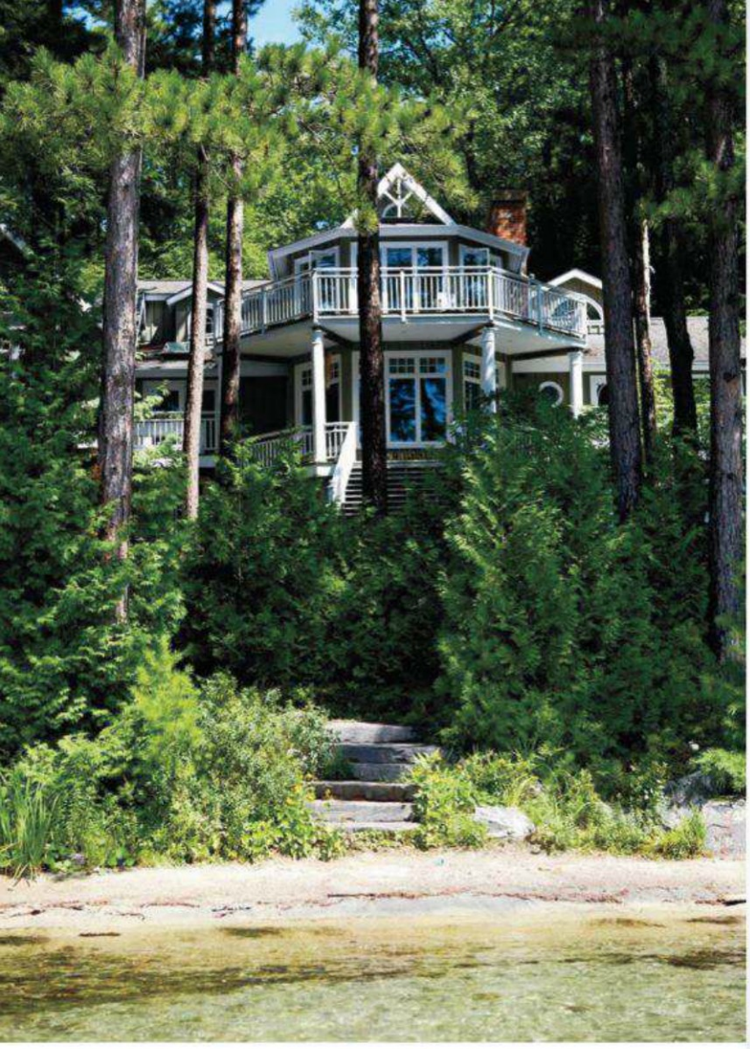
PENDANT LIGHTS, Restoration Hardware; **STOOLS,** Urban Remains; Cloud White CC-40 **CABINETRY PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; Lamp Room Gray 88 **ISLAND PAINT,** Farrow & Ball; **APPLIANCES,** Caplan's Appliances; **FAUCETS,** Ginger's.

OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT "The Coca-Cola door was a special find that the homeowner and I scored on one of our shopping excursions," says Ingrid. "It contains a similar green to the pantry beyond, so the two complement and play off each other well."

Coca-Cola **DOOR,** The Door Store; Cooking Apple Green 32 **PANTRY PAINT,** Farrow & Ball.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT The stone fireplace in the dining room is original to the space. The mantel was made from an oversized beam with corbels and trim added to provide some architectural interest.

DINING TABLE, Restoration Hardware; vintage **PENDANT LIGHTS,** The Door Store.



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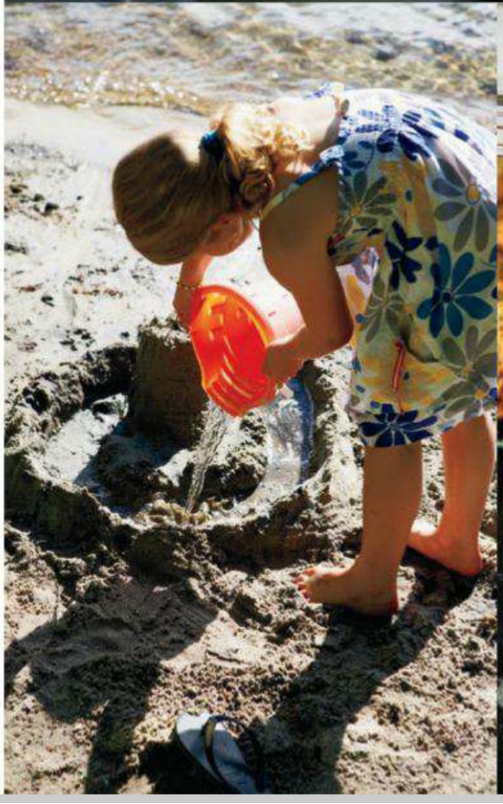
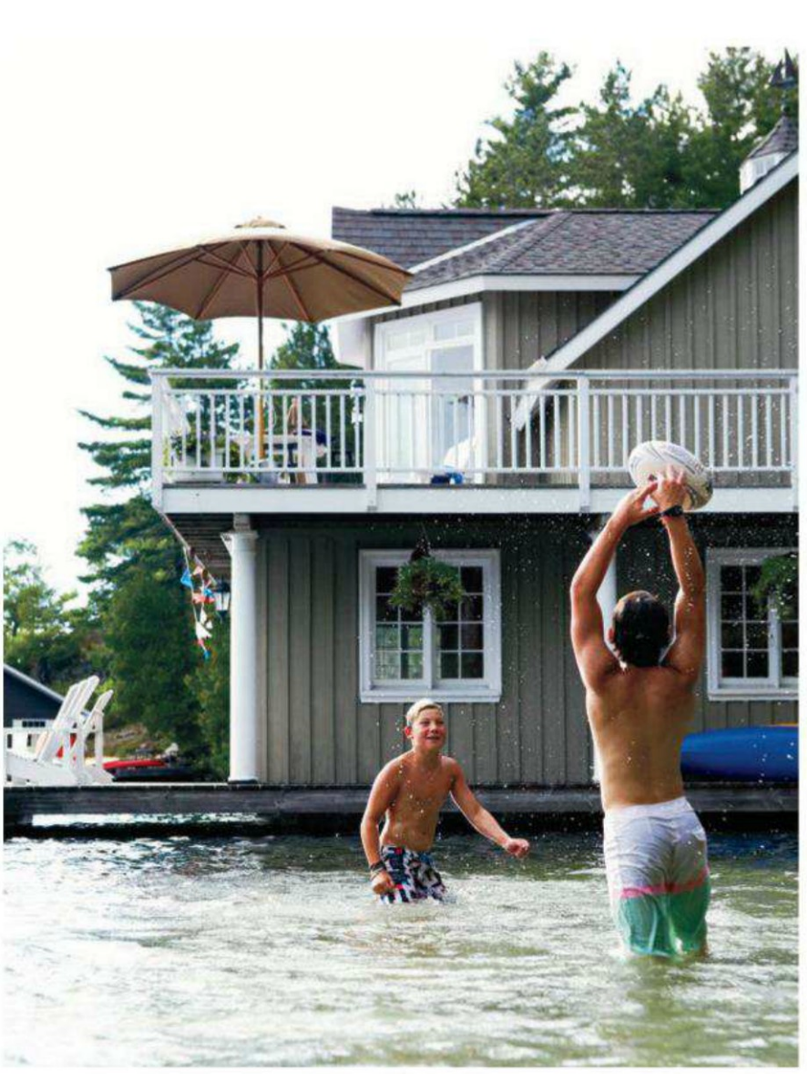
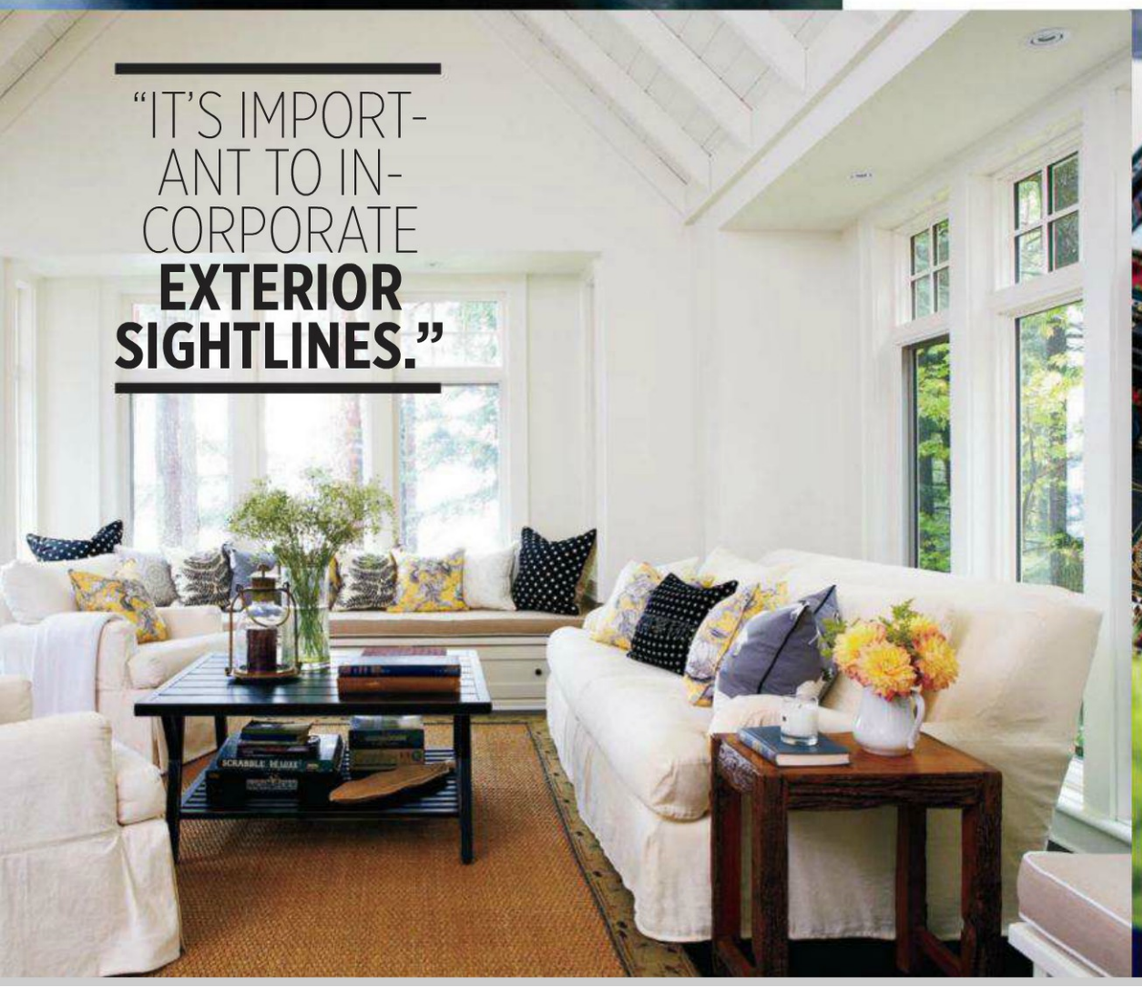






"IT'S IMPORTANT TO INCORPORATE **EXTERIOR SIGHTLINES.**"

You've used cream as your main colour with accents of green and charcoal. Is this a cottage palette you use often?

I always try to go with a fresh palette for a cottage setting. The homeowners proposed Farrow & Ball's Cooking Apple Green, which is perfect for this space because it has beautiful depth. The grey is a nice complement to the cream, keeping the contrast crisp.

I noticed that you painted out the beams on the ceilings. Was it hard to convince the homeowners to do that?

They were all for it – they may have even suggested it! The beams in what is now the dining room visually overwhelmed the space. Painting them white made them seem more to scale with the rest of the room.

You've broken the cottage kitchen mould with your industrial-inspired look. Do the homeowners entertain a lot?

Yes! It's amazing what they can do with just a few fresh herbs from the garden. In a matter of minutes, the island is filled with tasty dishes. This was also the inspiration for making the kitchen so central.

How many accessories are too many in a cottage?

I don't like to overaccessorize in general. At a certain point, "stuff" gets to be too much. Accessories need to be well edited, and scale and proportion thoughtfully considered.

What do the homeowners think of the end result?

We were able to transform the cottage from a dark and masculine interior to one that is voluminous and bright. For the homeowners, having a cottage is so that family and friends can enjoy one another's company – and it's easy to do that here!

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

RIGHT In the living room, a striking fireplace with a towering chimney breast and an oversized lantern-style pendant light are simple yet equally dramatic features.

Amherst Gray HC-167 **MANTEL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; cowhide **ARMCHAIRS,** Putti Fine Furnishings; custom **OTTOMAN,** Regency Upholstery Interiors; **PENDANT LIGHT,** Elte.

OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT "Cottages are a reflection of items collected over time, so it's nice when furniture pieces exhibit that in a coherent way," says Ingrid. The dining room is a case in point with its farmhouse-style table and vintage pendant lights.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT "It was important for us to let in more light and incorporate the landscape into the interior," says Ingrid, which is evidenced in the casually chic family room.

Oxford White CC-30 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **SOFA, ARMCHAIRS,** Crate and Barrel.

TEXT KATHLEEN DORE | **PHOTOGRAPHY** ANGUS FERGUSSON

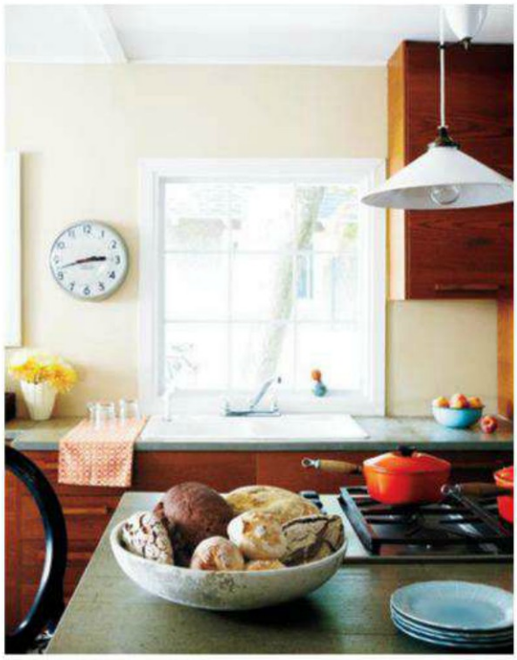
CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'

Not many see Lake Erie and think Southern California. Luckily, Toronto shop owner Teresa Wiwchar is as one of a kind as her sense of style.

The deck takes on a classic motel-chic look with the addition of a trio of Solair chairs in a green and blue scheme.

Solair **CHAIRS,** Inabstracto.

OPPOSITE The cottage is perched above Long Beach, a public beach on Lake Erie, cozily sandwiched among other similar traditional coastal cottages. But homeowner Teresa Wiwchar doesn't mind the accessible setting – she loves watching families set up for a day in the sun and seeing Jet Skis whiz by.



When Teresa Wiwchar, owner of Toronto decor shop Châtelet, envisioned a weekend getaway for herself, husband Hamid Samad and their two kids, Macy, 8, and Finn, 6, the typical woodsy cottage wasn't top of mind. Instead, she looked to her past and found her ideal summer house on Lake Erie's Long Beach, near where she grew up in Southwestern Ontario.

The 1,100-square-foot cottage met all of her criteria: close to Toronto, near her mom's house, swimmable water and a cottagey feel – beach cottage, that is. Think sun, sand and style – way more Malibu than Muskoka.

Her inspiration came from a *Vanity Fair* spread she'd seen years ago of actor Dennis Hopper's Malibu home. The vibe was 1970s surfer/boho chic and Teresa couldn't wait to interpret the look in her own beach cottage. It would be a departure from her Toronto home and the Hollywood-glam-meets-shabby-chic-meets-Parisian-flair of her Châtelet store. "In the city, I have greys, pale blues and greens – there isn't the same riot of colour I have in the cottage," she says. "I wanted the place to be fun and lively because it's a weekend home."

TOP LEFT The old kitchen "was awful" says Teresa – dark and cramped. The new space is its antithesis – breezy, modern, bright and roomy enough for husband Hamid Samad to cook up a storm while entertaining guests at the island.

TOP RIGHT Teresa is very L.A.-cazh at her Malibu-style cottage on Lake Erie's Long Beach.

LEFT Sophisticated touches, such as the classy secondhand chairs reupholstered in a tailored stripe, coupled with black accessories, including a sexy chandelier, challenge traditional concepts of cottage decorating, yet the dressed-up style looks right at home beside the original stone fireplace.

DRAPERY FABRIC, MacFab Fabrics; **CHANDELIER,** Châtelet.

OPPOSITE Simple black and white frames unite a display of the kids' creative masterpieces.

monster

OPPOSITE Teresa's daughter Macy (right) takes a break from the beach to enjoy a snack on the deck with a friend from a nearby cottage. Patterns from the sun porch forge a link between the indoors and out.

RIGHT The family spends a lot of time in the super-casual screened-in sun porch that Teresa coated with white paint. She also painted the picnic table that the previous owners left behind for relaxed summertime dining.

BOTTOM RIGHT Turquoise and green linens and a graphic lattice pattern continue the cheerful retro vibe in the screened-in porch.

TABLE RUNNER FABRIC, PLACEMAT FABRIC, Designer Fabrics.

BOTTOM LEFT A slammer screen door says summer loud and clear. A turquoise rattan wall-mounted coat rack is perfectly positioned to catch bright-orange beach towels. Vintage jars filled with small stones set a cottage-country mood.

In the newly open-concept living room/kitchen (they renovated extensively, gutting the kitchen and bathroom and turning five tiny bedrooms into three larger ones), teal accents splash across bold black and pure whites. The teal was a personal challenge. "I wanted to pick the loudest colour I could find and make it work," says Teresa. It works, and so does the colourful wall of kids' artwork arranged above the living room's standout piece: a heavily carved Craigslist-find sofa with an Indo-Persian feel.

The new cabinets flanking the original stone fireplace are from IKEA and were carried through from the kitchen to visually unify the space. "I picked [this cabinetry] because it has an updated 1970s vibe," says Teresa. Same goes for the modern concrete countertops in the kitchen, which stand up to heavy use by avid gourmand Hamid, whose only request was for an amazing kitchen. On weekends, he is usually found at the island cooktop, surrounded by guests.

"We love to entertain friends and family," says Teresa. Lucky guests! Especially if they're staying in the boho-style guest room, where bright primary accents on bold monotone patterns are a world away from the usual tartan-clad cabin digs.

But Teresa's passion for fabulous textiles was really unleashed in the master bedroom. "I fell in love with the fabrics first," she says. Two sets of French doors (newly installed to take in the ocean-like horizon) are each framed with two vibrantly patterned drapery panels. A solid fabric was used for Roman shades on the doors, and a quilt, which incorporates all those colours and more, dresses the bed. Airy blue walls balance the garden-gone-wild colour scheme and calm the space.

Teresa loves to sneak in here for total R & R. "I like to curl up with a magazine and just lie there, reading, eating chocolate and admiring the view," she says. "The scenery is amazing. It's hard to believe you can get that in Ontario." So who's California dreamin' now?

Check out Teresa's chic shop, Châtelet, with us! Visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/CHATELET.**

LEFT Teresa bought the vintage gilded "bamboo" chair from a picker she knows. "It's great to be in the trade," she admits. Whenever she's looking for a particular piece, it eventually shows up.

BOTTOM Teresa uses a curvy Hollywood-glam vanity from her shop as a writing table. Despite the touches of glamour, the cottage vibe is kept from getting too frou-frou thanks to Teresa's fun, even audacious use of textiles.

RIGHT Teresa purchased the seascape artwork from one of her favourite antiques spots in Florida. She fashioned a one-of-a-kind pendant light from an elaborate ceiling medallion found at one of her regular haunts, Captain's Treasures, and a flea market find chandelier. The bedside lamps were also second-hand finds spruced up with custom shades – they don't match, echoing the contrasting window treatments.

VANITY, DRAPERY SEWING, Châtelet; **CEILING MEDALLION,** Captain's Treasures.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

Wild in STONEY LAKE

After spending youthful summers at her family's cottage in Peterborough, Ont., an architect builds her own country retreat across the lake along with her own family memories.

TEXT IRIS BENAROIA | **PHOTOGRAPHY** DONNA GRIFFITH

Why build a boathouse if you can't leap off it? The sounds of happy splashing are heard all summer long from homeowner and architect Dee Dee Taylor Eustace's cottage on Stoney Lake in Peterborough, Ont.

DESIGN, Taylor Hannah Architect, taylor-hannaharchitect.com; **CONSTRUCTION,** Montclair Construction.

This tranquil screened-in porch – or "Stoney Lake room" – as Dee Dee calls it, got an exterior-style wall treatment, while the luxe furnishings are fitting for a formal interior.

Navy **TOSS CUSHION,** Crate and Barrel; printed **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Télio; **ARMCHAIR FABRIC,** Maxwell Fabrics.

CONSTRUCTION, BURTON CUSTOM HOMES, BURTONHOMES@NEXICON.NET & BOB MCLENNAN, MCLENNANCUSTOMHOMES@YAHOO.CA

Whether it's the lake-scented air or the calming trees, something about cottage country instantly disarms. Perhaps this accounts for the unlikely pairing of Dee Dee Taylor Eustace's mud-caked knees and manicured fingernails. "I love the outdoors! I horseback-ride, water-ski, paddleboat, golf, fish – I'll even put the worm on the hook!" says the Toronto-based interior designer and architect, whose customary urban threads are Christian Dior and Gucci. In the city, she's a stylista (she just finished taping her new show, HGTV's *The Real Designing Women*, and is also a regular contributor to the Style section of the *Globe and Mail*), but from late May until Thanksgiving, the mother of two can be found in flip-flops at her Stoney Lake cottage enjoying the sights and sounds.

The secluded Peterborough, Ont., getaway is about two hours northeast of Toronto and the ultimate refuge from the city: a private two-acre island with 1,800 feet of beguiling shoreline and a nautical-nuanced interior made for lounging with a book or simply gazing at the placid portraits of lake, sky and trees framed in each unadorned window.

OPPOSITE With white plank walls that could be on the side of a boat and chrome light fixtures that look more like portholes on a ship than pendant lights, the kitchen feels like an upscale version of a captain's scullery.

Whirlpool CC-910 **CABINETRY PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **CABINETRY CONSTRUCTION,** Ellis Fine Cabinetry; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Restoration Hardware.

BELOW Reused from a previous project, the elegant dining chairs were updated in a nubby white fabric and blue vinyl to tie in with the nautical colour palette.

RUG, Elte; **PENDANT LIGHT,** Restoration Hardware.

ABOVE White snapdragons and a pitcher of lemonade make a refreshing vignette – just tote the nailhead-adorned tray to the deck for an alfresco afternoon.

Wooden **SPOON, PITCHER, TEA TOWEL,** HomeSense; **TRAY,** ChairTableLamp.

LEFT Even in her country casuals, Dee Dee looks glamorous on the porch of her breathtaking blue-shingled cottage.

In the living room, wooden window frames were painted dark blue to stand out against the white walls. Sparkling silver legs lift the green brocade furniture and prevent the room from feeling staid.

THROW, Pottery Barn; **TRAY,** West Elm; floral Scalamandre **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Primavera.

OPPOSITE With their tapered, fluted legs, as well as the quatrefoil carvings on their cornices, the dining chairs are elegant references to Louis XVI.

SCONCE, Elte; blue vinyl Delaney **CHAIR SEAT FABRIC,** Kravet/Lee Jofa Showroom.

“I first came to Stoney Lake when I was one week old – **I grew up here. I had my first boyfriend here. I taught swimming.**”

DEE DEE TAYLOR EUSTACE, HOMEOWNER

When she conceived of the luxurious blue-shingled cottage, Dee Dee envisioned "four stone columns tied in with a pergola." The layout features a series of 20-by-20-foot pods, so there are no hallways – just unobstructed views of the stunning scenery outdoors framed by architecturally ornate ceilings and walls in a gorgeous juxtaposition of structure and nature.

The project took a year and a half to complete due to the logistics of hauling construction materials on a barge and organizing trades so far from the city. But the effort was well worth it: Mimicking the airiness of its Stoney Lake setting, the two-storey 3,000-square-foot main house (there's also a one-bedroom guest house and a 600-square-foot boathouse) offers unimpeded flow.

The colour palette and finishes, carried from room to room, add to the sense of continuity: Fresh white walls, honey-hued ash floors, Dee Dee's signature detailed ceilings – coffered here, beadboard there – and sweeping views from almost any vantage point carry out that classic, nautical cottage feel from one end to the other.

“I like to pretend **I’m marooned on an island** and I can’t go anywhere.”
DEE DEE TAYLOR EUSTACE, HOMEOWNER
Find out who inspires Dee Dee, where she likes to shop and more! Visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/DEEDEETAYLOR.**

The stately furnishings, from the nailhead-detailed Louis XVI-style dining chairs to the Baroque flourishes of the armchairs on the screened-in porch, are tempered by sweeping vistas of the lake.

"I first came to Stoney Lake when I was one week old – I grew up here," says Dee Dee. "I had my first boyfriend here. I taught swimming," she says, pausing with a comedian's perfect timing. "I hit many rocks."

Dee Dee's parents still own that cottage on the mainland, where her family, including two siblings from New York City and California, spends summers sharing stories and meals. "It's the one place in the world where we come together," says Dee Dee. She wants her own children, Jake, 17, and Rachael, 12, to experience their own rites of passage, making memories to last a lifetime. "They love, love, *love* it here," says Dee Dee. "They drive around in tin boats, sail and swim."

But after having all the family fun on the mainland, she's glad to return to the private island getaway that's all her own: "I like to pretend I'm marooned on the island," Dee Dee says with a laugh, "and I can't go anywhere."

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

OPPOSITE In the screened-in porch, fancy furnishings look whimsical against grainy Douglas Fir floors – the perfect juxtaposition of outdoors and in.

White **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Télio; navy **TOSS CUSHION,** Crate and Barrel; **TRAY,** West Elm.

BELOW "I love layering," says Dee Dee of the pillow-piled bed in the master bedroom, its headboard and bedskirt lending a more formal vibe. "The gold, black and white flower pattern is so graphic and happy."

TABLE LAMPS, Global Views; Manuel Canovas **HEADBOARD & BEDSKIRT FABRIC,** Primavera; **NIGHTSTAND,** Ellis Fine Cabinetry.

TIP

HEAVY BRONZE SCONCES BY THE BATHROOM VANITY BLUR THE LINE BETWEEN INDOORS AND OUT.

ABOVE A mahogany vanity topped with marble was custom made for the master ensuite. "The wood is lacquered, like you'd see in a boat," says Dee Dee.

VANITY, Ellis Fine Cabinetry; **SCONCE,** Sescolite Lighting.

LEFT Simple yet sophisticated, the pairing of the ornate rug and striped settee works because of the similar gold tones in both pieces.

dinner under the STARS

Don’t miss a minute of these idyllic summer days. Whether you’re in the city or at the lake, savour the freshest fare alfresco, cottage style.

RECIPES PAULA BOWMAN | **FOOD STYLING** IAN MUGGRIDGE | **PHOTOGRAPHY** ANDREAS TRAUTTMANSDORFF | **PROP STYLING** CHRISTINE HANLON

CEDAR-PLANKED LOBSTER TAILS WITH SPICY LEMON JALAPEÑO VINAIGRETTE

Some might feel that as a beautiful summer day of entertaining draws to a close, afternoon visitors should gather their things and gracefully make their exit. We beg to differ. In fact, that special time – when day turns to evening and candles are lit, outdoor lights glow, the air is soft and wine flows freely – summons a kind of formal relaxation that's perfect for the hosts to move into a casually elegant feast easily prepared with the simplest ingredients and the freshest of flavours. This is no chips-and-dip meal cobbled together on paper plates and plastic cups. This is succulent lobster, delicately seasoned radishes and just-picked asparagus with tender herbs. This is summer at its best. This is bliss.

CEDAR-PLANKED LOBSTER TAILS WITH SPICY LEMON JALAPEÑO VINAIGRETTE

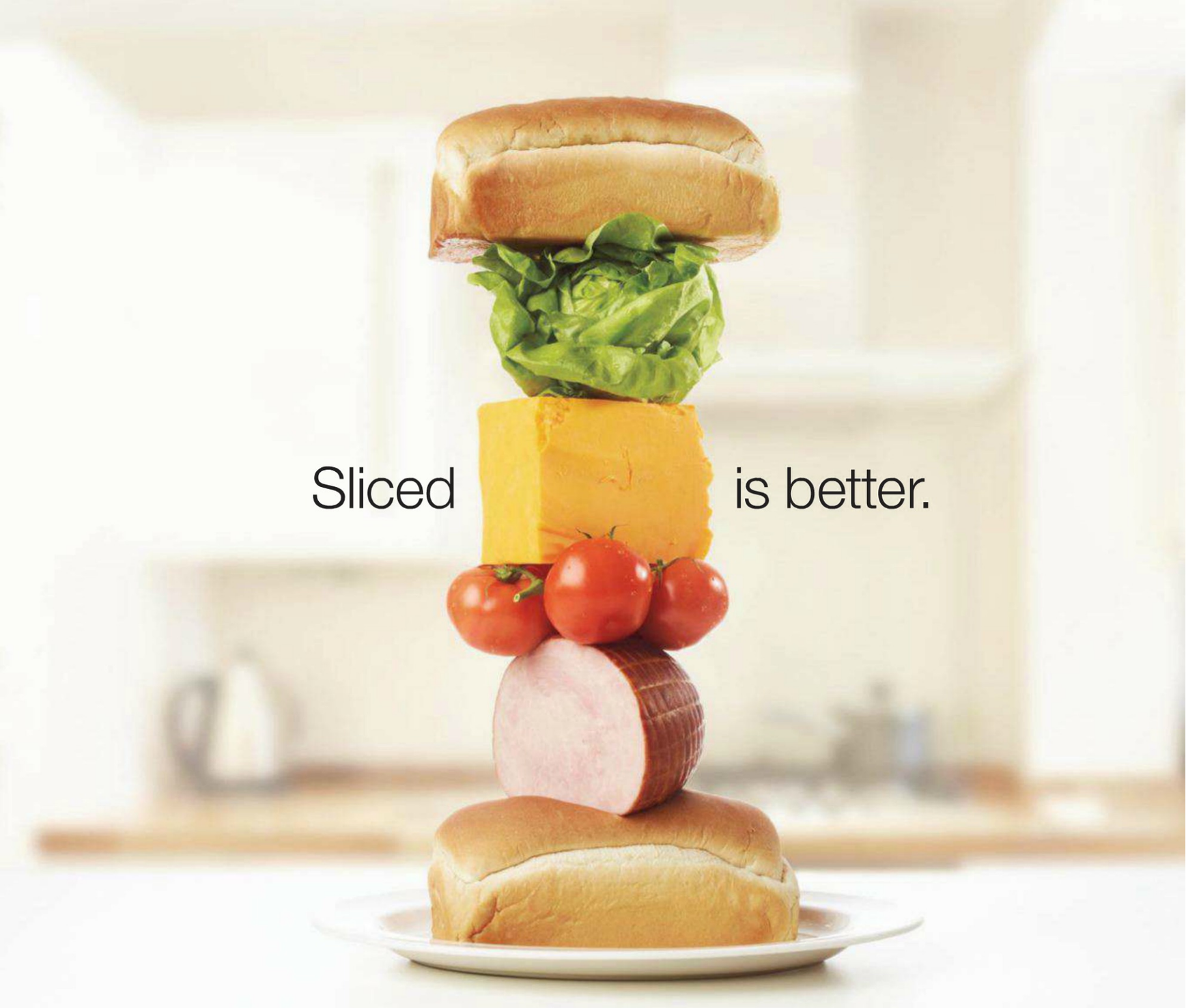
SERVES 6

- 1 jalapeño pepper
- ½ tsp finely grated lemon zest
- 2 tbsp lemon juice
- 2 tbsp unseasoned rice wine vinegar
- 1 tsp granulated sugar
- ⅓ cup good quality olive oil, plus more for grilling
- 6 uncooked lobster tails (7 to 8 oz each), halved lengthwise
- 2 untreated cedar planks (7" x 14" or similar), soaked in water for 2 hours

Preheat the grill to medium-high. Place the pepper on the hot grill and cook until charred on all sides, about 6 minutes. Let cool, then remove the charred skin from the jalapeño and cut the pepper in half, discarding the seeds. Finely dice the jalapeño.

Place the diced pepper in a jar with a tightly fitting lid. Add the lemon zest, lemon juice, vinegar and sugar; cover and shake well to blend. Add the oil and replace the lid. Shake the mixture again until emulsified. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Set aside.

Brush the cut side of the lobster tails lightly with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Place the cedar planks on the grill, close the lid and heat for 4 minutes. Arrange the lobster tails, cut side down, on top of the planks. Close the lid of the grill and cook until meat is opaque, not transparent, and firm to the touch, about 8 to 10 minutes. Serve the lobster tails with a drizzle of the lemon jalapeño vinaigrette on top and more on the side for dipping.



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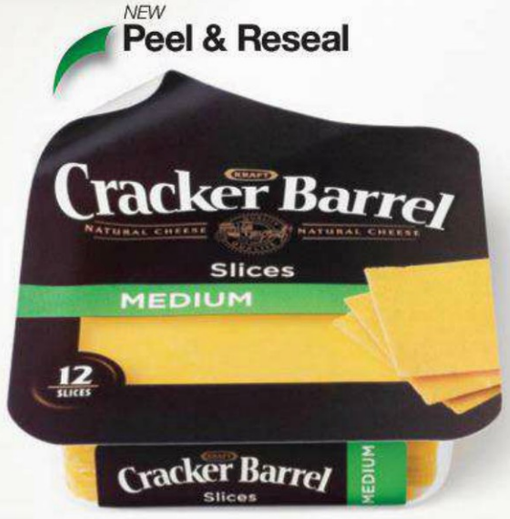

NIGHT LIGHTS

The glow of candlelight is a must for summer evenings on the patio, but why not go a step further and enhance the ambience even more by enlisting some indoor options to create a relaxing outdoor room? Here, we've brought out an arched floor lamp and a small table lamp to invite lounging, then added a few star lanterns to twinkle from between the leaves on a vine-covered pergola.

For more on how to take your party from day to night all summer long, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/DAYTONIGHT.**

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ALL-BRAN CRANBERRY APPLE MUFFINS

1 ½ cups All-Bran Original* cereal
1 cup milk
1 cup all-purpose flour
½ cup lightly packed brown sugar
4 tsp baking powder
1 tsp ground cinnamon
½ tsp **each**, ground nutmeg and salt
2 eggs
¼ cup canola oil
¾ cup chopped, frozen cranberries (do not thaw)
¾ cup unpeeled, diced McIntosh apples (¼" cubes)

In medium bowl, combine cereal and milk. Let stand for 2 minutes or until cereal softens. Meanwhile, in large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt. Set aside.

Beat eggs and oil into cereal mixture. Add to dry ingredients, stirring only until just combined. Fold in cranberries and apple. Portion batter evenly into 12 (2 ½") non-stick muffin pan cups, lightly coated with cooking spray.

Bake at 400°F for 20 minutes or until tops spring back when lightly touched. Yields 12 muffins, each a source of fibre.

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†Wheat Bran Fibre is the best fibre to promote regularity. 1. Health Canada. Guideline for Planning and Statistical Review of Clinical Laxation Studies for Dietary Fibre. Health Canada, Ottawa, ON, 1994. 2. Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of Sciences. Dietary Reference Intakes for Energy, Carbohydrate, Fiber, Fat, Fatty Acids, Cholesterol, Protein and Amino Acids. The National Academies Press, Washington, DC, 2002/2005. *© 2012, Trademark of Kellogg Company used under licence by Kellogg Canada Inc.

LOBSTER COOKING TIP
Cedar planks can be found in the fish department at most grocery stores. Soak them before use by fully submerging the planks in cold water for at least 2 hours or overnight.

ROASTED RADISHES WITH WATERCRESS & MINT

SERVES 6

- 1¼ lbs medium-sized radishes, trimmed and quartered
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 2 cups fresh watercress, washed and drained, thick stems removed
- 2 tbsp fresh mint leaves, cut into a chiffonade

Preheat the oven to 425°F. Toss the radishes with the olive oil in a medium bowl and season with salt and pepper. Transfer to an oven-safe skillet and roast until golden and tender when pierced with a knife, about 25 minutes.

Remove the pan from the oven, add the watercress and stir until the watercress is slightly wilted. Stir in the mint and serve immediately.

RADISH COOKING TIP
Roasting radishes sweetens and mellows their flavour. Choose golf ball-sized radishes and quarter them for best results.

WHITE ASPARAGUS WITH FAVA BEANS & SORREL

SERVES 6

- 1 lb thin white asparagus, peeled, with stems trimmed
- 3 lbs fresh fava beans, shelled
- 1 tbsp unsalted butter
- 2 tbsp chopped fresh sorrel

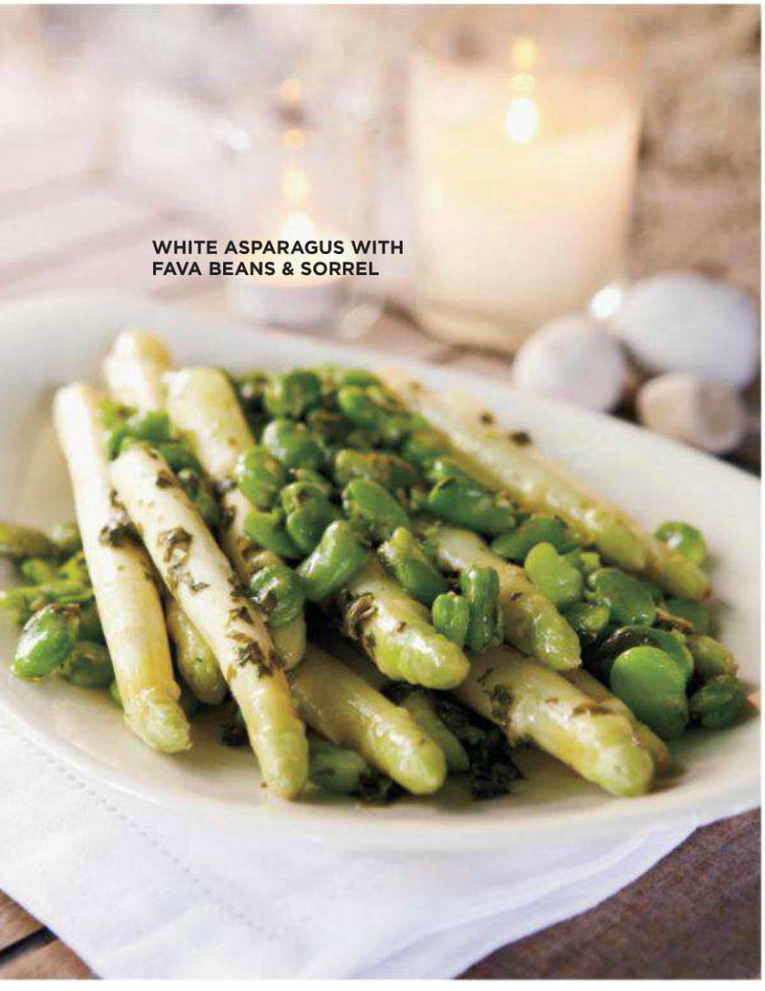
Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil over high heat. Fill a large bowl with ice cubes and water; set aside. Add the asparagus to the pot and cook until tender, about 4 minutes. Remove the asparagus from the boiling water with a slotted spoon and place the spears in the ice bath to cool. Remove and trim the spears diagonally into 2" lengths; set aside. Add the fava beans to the boiling water and cook for 30 seconds. Transfer the beans to the ice water, cool and drain. Peel the outer membrane from the fava beans; set aside.

Melt the butter in a large skillet over low heat. Add the sorrel to the pan and cook, stirring often, until the sorrel has nearly dissolved. Add the asparagus and the beans to the pan and heat gently until warmed through, about 2 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to taste and serve.

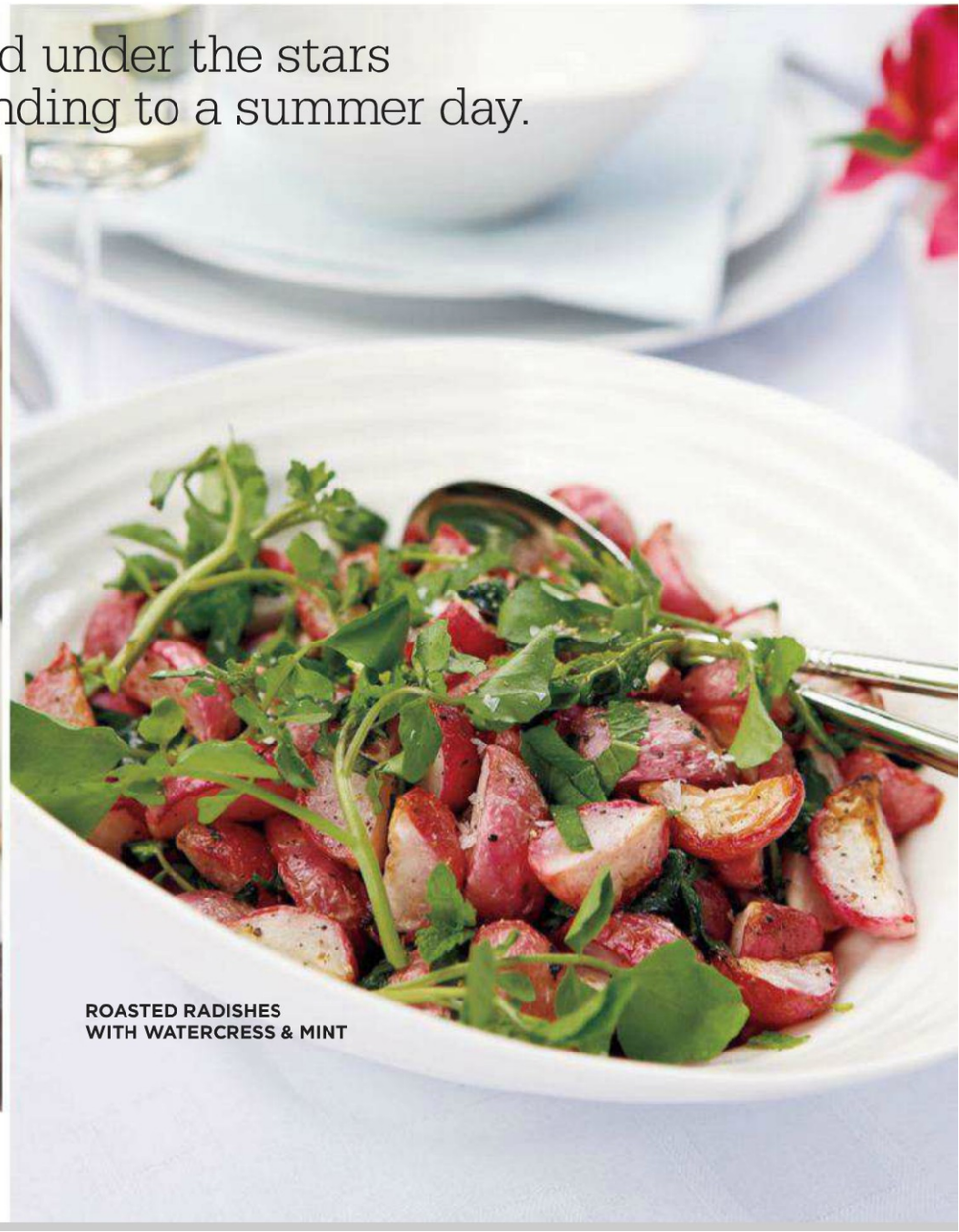
FAVA BEAN COOKING TIP
To peel the membrane from the fava beans, use your thumbnail or a small knife to pierce the rounded edge, then gently squeeze from the opposite side to release the inner bean. Fava bean pods will keep refrigerated for 3 days.

FOR WINE PAIRINGS, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

A fresh seasonal menu served under the stars creates the perfect ending to a summer day.



WHITE ASPARAGUS WITH FAVA BEANS & SORREL



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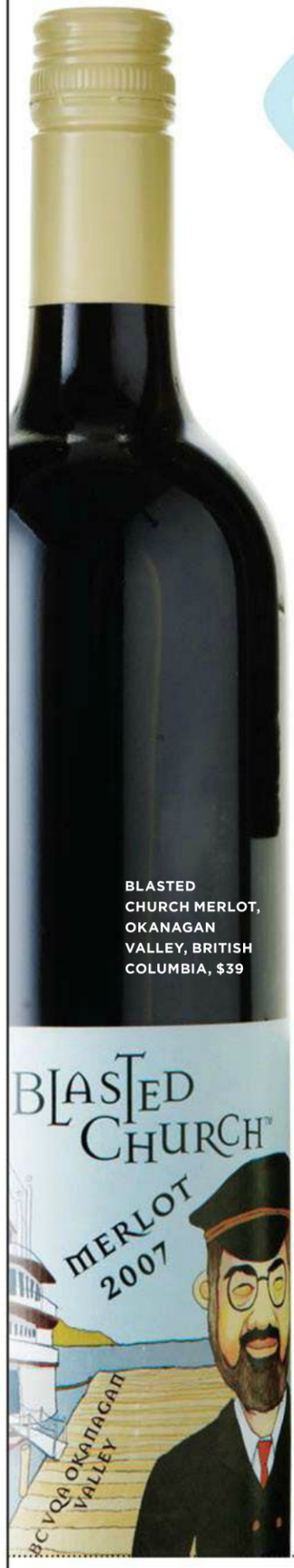

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Look for the Vintners Quality Alliance (VQA) stamp of approval when shopping for wines from British Columbia and Ontario. This symbol signifies that the wine is 100 percent – from grape to glass – from the labelled provinces.

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PAIRINGS

Canadian wines are amazingly food-friendly. The crisp acidity of Riesling and Sauvignon Blanc is the perfect match for green salads, seafood and cream-based dishes. Our Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs are elegant and balanced, pairing well with medium-weight foods like pork, risotto and artisanal cheeses. Open a bottle of Cabernet Franc, Merlot or Baco Noir for rich-flavoured meals or alongside sharp cheeses and decadent dark chocolate.

CANADA'S WINE REGIONS

Ontario's beautiful wine country is a must-visit spot. Highlights include Twenty Valley, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Pelee Island and Prince Edward County.

In British Columbia, explore wines from the picturesque Okanagan Valley, Similkameen Valley, Fraser Valley, Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

In Quebec, Canada's third-largest wine-producing region, discover wines from Lake Champlain, the St. Lawrence River and the Laurentians.

Nova Scotia boasts a booming industry, with six beautiful wine-growing regions and 14 unique wineries, such as Benjamin Bridge Vineyards.

Wine expert **Angela Aiello** is the founder of the iYellow Wine Club (iyellowwineclub.com), which hosts regular events, classes and tours where members can build wine confidence and appreciation through discovery.

PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA

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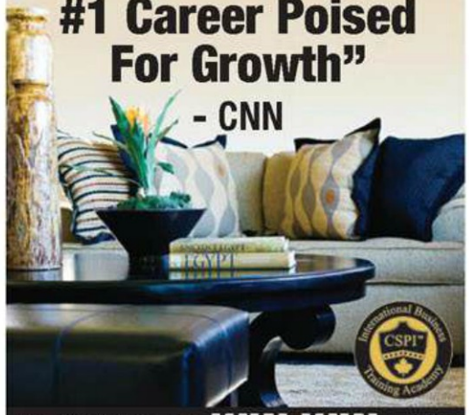

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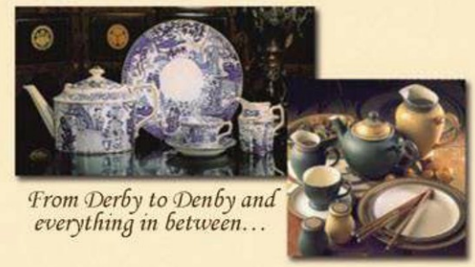

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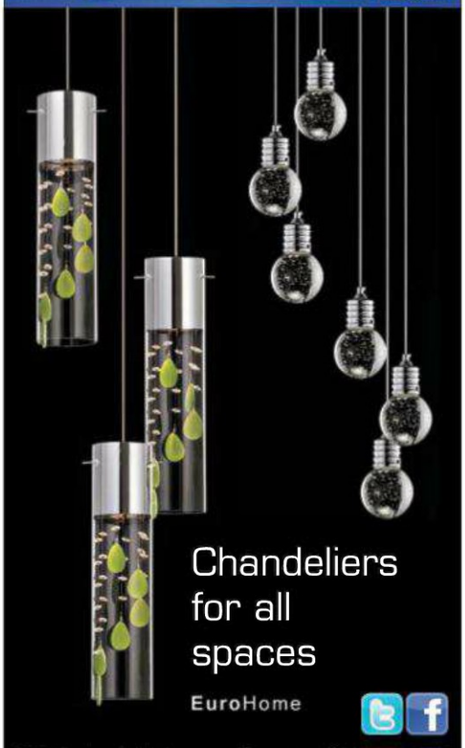

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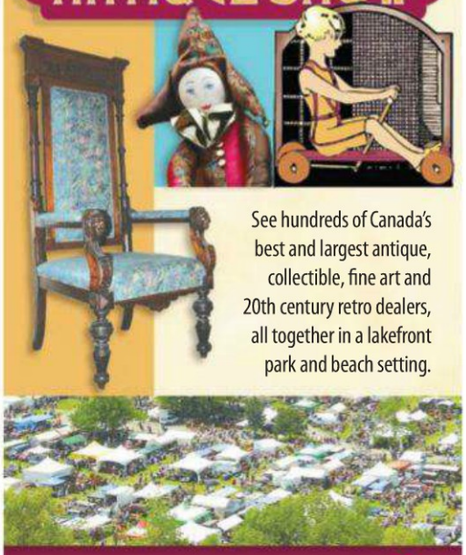

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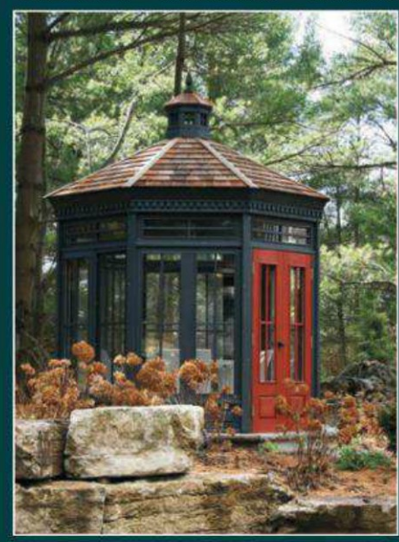

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get the cottage-style look as seen in our feature interiors

Down the Right Path page 76

Defined by its simple, neutral backdrop and rustic accents, this casually chic cottage harmoniously blends function and style. Items like the salvaged wood side table and jute rug drive home the beachy theme, while plush white sofas and cheery toss cushions keep the look laid-back for those lazy summer afternoons.

Ceramic Pure White **VASE,** from $10, West Elm, westelm.com.

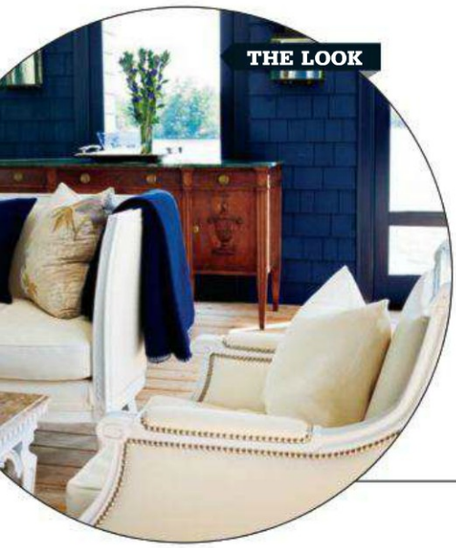
Joy **TOSS CUSHION** in Fiesta, $39, Tonic Living, tonicliving.com.

California Dreamin' page 82

Lively patterns and bold colours are at play in this boho-chic cottage that embraces a whimsical, vintage vibe. Glamorous accents like the flashy crystal chandelier pop against the original stone fireplace in a funky fusion of styles, creating a space that's as trendy and timely as it is homey.

Soda-Lime **PITCHER** in Turquoise, $28, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

Velvet **TOSS CUSHION** in Teal, $36, Pier 1 Imports, pier1.ca.



Wild in Stoney Lake page 90

Stately and refined, this luxurious summer refuge possesses classic elegance and coastal charm. A colour scheme of fresh white and navy blue lends the cottage its relaxed, nautical feel, while sophisticated touches like nailhead detailing and smooth linen upholstery add a dose of seaside drama to the space.

Atlas Champagne Cooler **ICE BUCKET** in Crystal, $165, Tiffany & Co., tiffany.com.

Jute Braid **TOSS CUSHION COVER** in Blue Dusk, $45, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.

PRODUCER, MORGAN LINDSAY; TEXT, ERYN CHESNEY

Create a relaxing and cozy home with more cottage-style looks. Visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/GETCOTTAGESTYLE.**

Parsons Reclaimed Russian Oak Square **SIDE TABLE,** $995 US, Restoration Hardware, restorationhardware.com.

Hovås **ARMCHAIR** in Gobo White, $479, IKEA, ikea.ca.

Visual Comfort large cornice **HANGING LANTERN** in Black Rust, $1,445, Elte, elte.com.

Lindved **SIDE TABLE,** $20, IKEA, ikea.ca.

Tux **ARMCHAIR** in Smoke, $999, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

Artcraft **CHANDELIER,** $460, Universal Lamp, greatlighting.com.

Austell **SIDE TABLE** with wood top, $2,040 US, Hickory Chair Furniture, hickorychair.com.

Hanna **ARMCHAIR,** $2,600 US, Oly, olystudio.com.

Harmon **PENDANT LIGHT,** from $329 US, Restoration Hardware, restorationhardware.com.

perfect pairings

dinner under the stars **FROM PAGE 98**

Wine expert Angela Aiello selects four matches for our "Dinner Under the Stars" menu (page 98).

Georges Duboeuf Beaujolais, France, $12

Inniskillin Pinot Noir, Ontario, $15

Mission Hill Five Vineyards Pinot Blanc, British Columbia, $15

Nederburg Sauvignon Blanc, South Africa, $12

more tips & options

christine's guide to slipcovers **FROM PAGE 56**

WHY USE A SLIPCOVER?

- It can elevate a basic silhouette or protect an heirloom.
- In some situations (kids or pets, for example) it's practical because it can be removed and easily cleaned.
- It's less expensive and less permanent, allowing for greater versatility than reupholstery.

WHERE & WHEN TO USE ONE

- To cover an inherited piece or an antique.
- To refresh or elevate existing furniture.
- For a seasonal room change up.
- To introduce colour or pattern to your space.
- To customize your decor.
- In areas that experience a lot of wear and tear from kids, pets or high traffic.

Slipcovered Ektorp Jennylund **ARMCHAIR** in Svanby Gray, $249, IKEA, ikea.ca.

Slipcovered Cortland **ARMCHAIR** in Portland Ivory, $1,299, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

For summer wine-party tips, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/WINEANDSPIRITS.**

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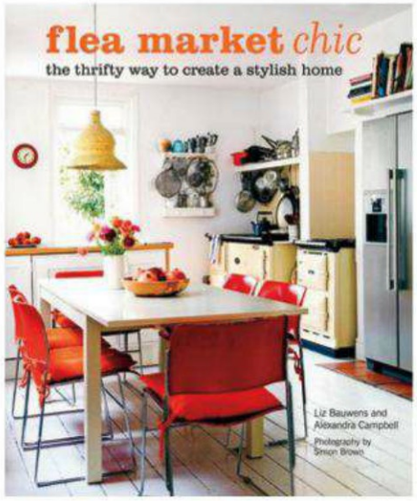
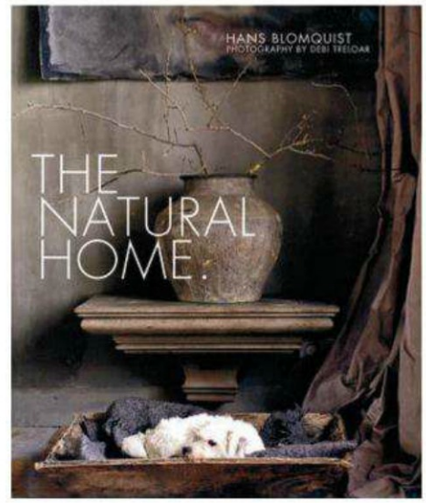

flea market chic
the thrifty way to create a stylish home
Liz Bauwens and Alexandra Campbell
Photography by Simon Brown

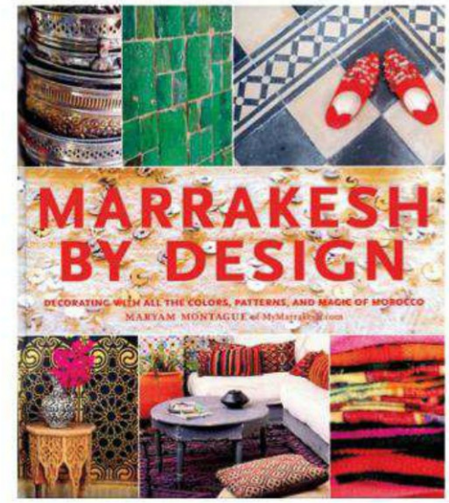
1 ***FLEA MARKET CHIC*** **BY LIZ BAUWENS AND ALEXANDRA CAMPBELL (CICO BOOKS), $36.**

Flea Market Chic introduces a smart new way to decorate that embraces a cheap and cheerful approach. Authors Liz Bauwens and Alexandra Campbell tell how to spot the best finds, where to look and how to negotiate, as well as how to rediscover and re-use things you or your family already owns. The featured homes show a range of decorating styles, from a traditional country abode to an urban apartment to a cozy boat-house, all of which incorporate flea market finds for a dynamic look that's full of personality.



2 ***THE NATURAL HOME*** **BY HANS BLOMQUIST (RYLAND PETERS & SMALL), $36.**

From art director and stylist Hans Blomquist, *The Natural Home* explores the key facets of an unique and contemporary look. Flowers and foliage, objects, colour, texture and textiles interplay to create a soothing decorating style that embraces nature. Hans explores homes that showcase the beautiful simplicity and elegance of the natural look.



3 ***MARRAKESH BY DESIGN*** **BY MARYAM MONTAGUE (ARTISAN), $35.**

When Maryam Montague moved to Morocco 10 years ago, the saturated colours, striking mosaics and rich textiles took her breath away. She chronicled her new life in Morocco with her husband and their young family in the award-winning design and lifestyle blog, My Marrakesh (mymarrakesh.com). Her first book, *Marrakesh by Design*, is a comprehensive and stunning guide to Moroccan architecture and design, and includes styling tips, DIY projects and a shopping guide.

source guide

A

Angus & Company
angusandcompany.com

Au Lit Fine Linens
aulitfinelinens.com

B

Behr
behr.com

Benjamin Moore
benjaminmoore.ca

C

Caplan's Appliances
caplans.ca

Captain's Treasures
captainstreasures.biz

ChairTableLamp
chairtablelamp.blogspot.com

Châtelet
chatelethome.com

CIL Paints
cil.ca

Cottage Industry
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Crate and Barrel
crateandbarrel.ca

D

Designer Fabrics
designerfabrics.ca

The Door Store
thedoorstore.ca

Dulux Paints
dulux.ca

E

Ellis Fine Cabinetry
taylorhannaharchitect.ca

Elte
elte.com

F

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fabricville.com

Farrow & Ball
farrow-ball.com

Ferreira Design
ferreiradesign.com

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gingers.com

Global Views
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Home Furniture
homefurniture.ca

HomeSense
homesense.ca

I

IKEA
ikea.ca

Inabstracto
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K

Kravet/Lee Jofa Showroom*
kravetcanada.com

M

MacFab Fabrics
macfabfabrics.com

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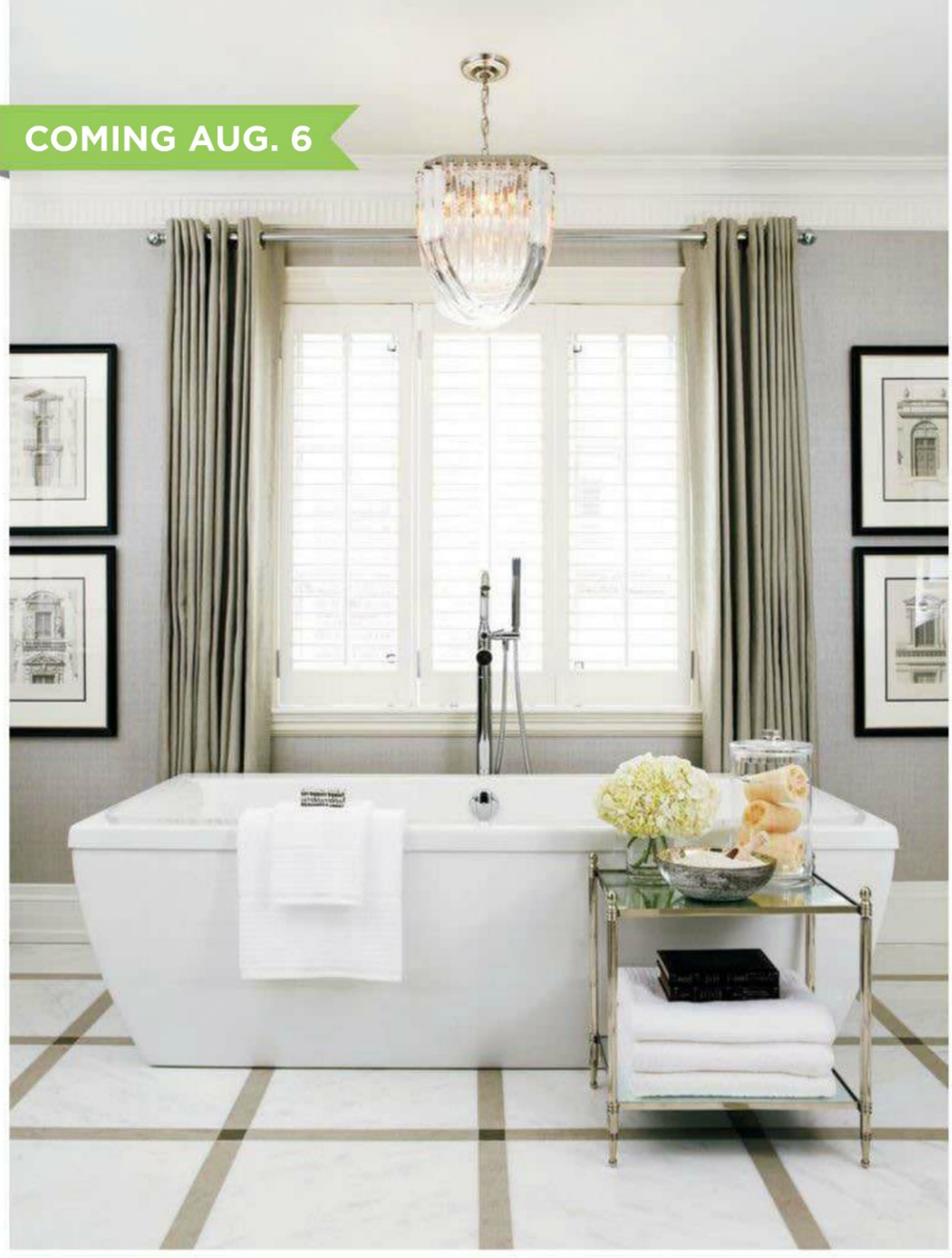

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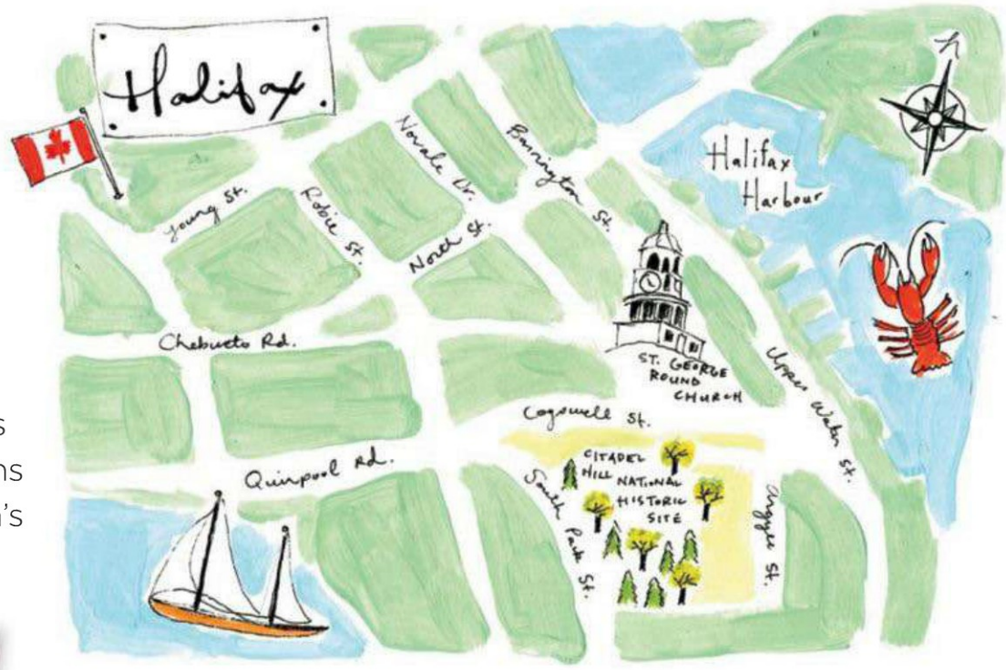

SHOP HYDROSTONE MARKET

One-of-a-kind, locally made crafts, jewellery and furniture are some of the treasures you'll find in the Hydrostone Market, set in a picturesque park-like setting in the north end. A mix of eateries and shops makes up this trendy historic block. For custom furniture and home accessories, visit Henhouse. This pretty boutique is a great place to shop if you're seeking inspiration to create cottage style in your home.

Young St., hydrostonemarket.ca; henhouse.ca.

STAY THE LORD NELSON

Beautiful public gardens are situated directly across from this gracious historic hotel conveniently located downtown, and a short walk to the water-front boardwalk. Fine dining and sophisticated suites are a few of the amenities that are sure to enhance your stay. Just around the corner is the bustling Spring Garden Road, which features a variety of chic boutiques and restaurants.

1515 South Park St., lordnelsonhotel.ca.

SHOP BELLISSIMO

Within walking distance from the Hydrostone Market, Bellissimo specializes in chic home accessories and antiques from Europe, combined with an engrossing fabric collection available to customize furniture. A high white tin ceiling, creaky wooden floors and marble accents add to the old-world vibe.

2743 Agricola St., bellissimoliving.com.

EAT & DRINK THE FIVE FISHERMEN RESTAURANT & GRILL

A local favourite for fresh fish, the Five Fishermen menu highlights a variety of dishes that will no doubt satisfy your seafood cravings. Nestled in a lovely historic building downtown, the restaurant interior is adorned with stained-glass windows and white linen-covered tables. Ask your server about the history of the building – she'll happily entertain with haunting tales!

1740 Argyle St., fivefishermen.com.

EAT & DRINK TWO IF BY SEA CAFÉ

Make your way to the ever-so-popular Two if By Sea Café, located in Halifax's Historic Properties. This modern-styled café is brimming with people at most times of the day. It seems that no one is able to resist the lure of croissants, best described as delectable, buttery decadence. The *pain au chocolat* is a local favourite, so few, if any, remain by the day's end.

1869 Upper Water St., twoifbyseabakeshop.com.

TEXT, VANESSA CHAGLJEVICH; ILLUSTRATION, EMILIE DESROCHERS

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the inspiration

Toronto shop owner Teresa Wiwchar channelled her inner beach girl and lined her Lake Erie, Ont., cottage deck with colourful motel-chic chairs, taking full advantage of the beautiful view.

Solair **CHAIR,** $100, The Bay, thebay.com.

last LOOK

Every issue, we pick our favourite piece from one of the featured interiors. This month, we chose a timeless modern chair from the eclectic cottage of Teresa Wiwchar (see "California Dreamin'," page 82). **Here's what you need to know.**

WHY WE LOVE IT

Designed 40 years ago by architects/industrial designers Fabio Fabiano and Michelange Panzini of Montreal, the Solair chair is as modern and trendy today as it was back then.

WHY IT WORKS

This Canadian icon is most recognized for its super-comfortable, unique shell design made from a single piece of plastic. Its look still feels minimal with a playful quality.

WHERE TO USE IT

Perfect for the deck or poolside, the Solair chair adds a pop of colour to your outdoor space and offers the biggest impact when arranged in a series. Bring it indoors for a similar effect.

PRODUCER, CATHERINE THERRIEN; PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA, ANGUS FERGUSSON (COTTAGE)

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